

*Hafa Adai!*

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 116

FRIDAY APRIL 25, 2008

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
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the closing of  
Hollywood Theaters  
is on the quality of life  
on the islands?

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to cast your vote.

## INSIDE

### Bonanza

Hillary Rodham Clinton parlayed her campaign-saving primary victory into a fundraising bonanza.

**NATION...Page 22**



### Beauty Titlist

Buddy was wide-awake Monday when he was crowned winner of a "Beautiful Bulldog" contest.

**OFFBEAT...Page 27**



### Best Friend

More than 85,000 people want to be Paris Hilton's best friend.

**LIFE & STYLE...Page 32**

Bill gives PUC a year to set power rates. **PAGE 2**  
Historic items donated to the NMI Museum. **PAGE 9**

# Marine monument nixed

## Lawmakers thumb down Pew proposal

By AGNES E. DONATO  
agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**T**he Legislature has adopted a resolution opposing the proposed marine monument in the Northern Islands.

By a vote of 17-3, the House of Representatives yesterday approved a resolution asking President Bush not to unilaterally declare the Uracas, Maug, and Asuncion islands as a marine sanctuary.

Representatives Tina Sablan, Heinz Hofschneider, and Edward Salas voted against the resolution.

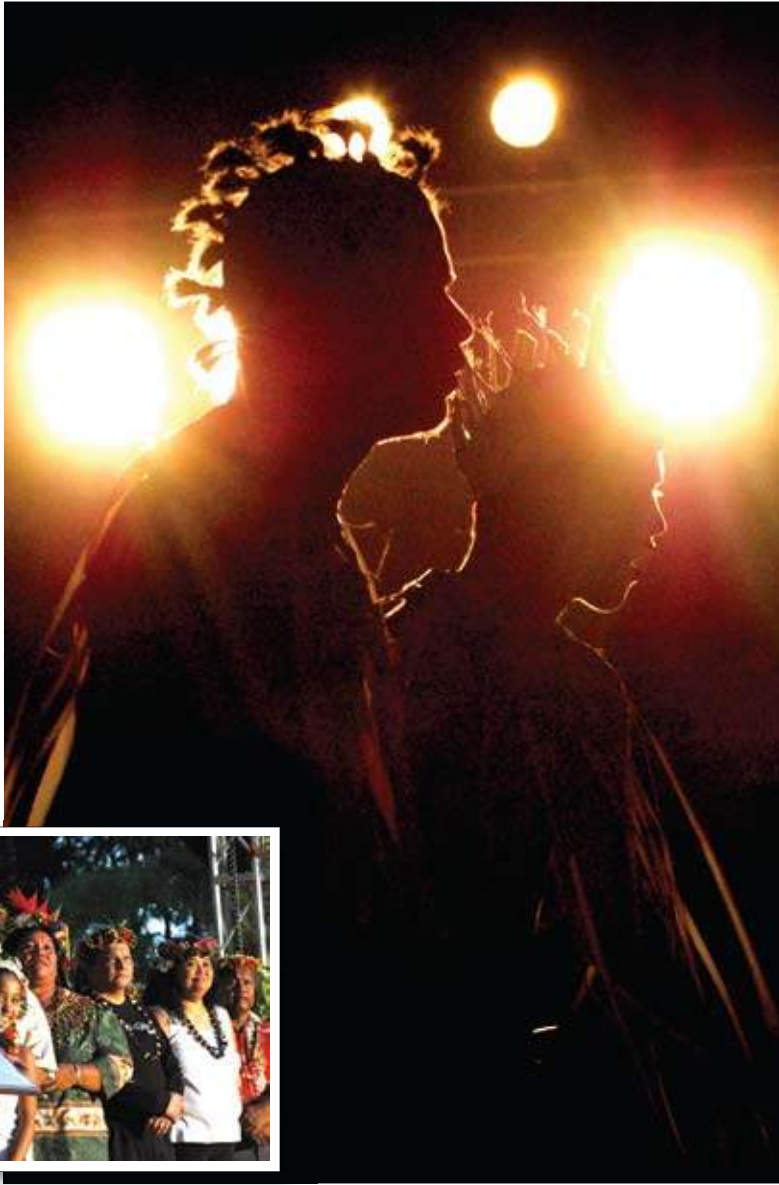
The Senate adopted the resolution unan-

See **MARINE** on Page 4

## ARTS FESTIVAL OPENS

Southern Cross Warriors perform a traditional Carolinian dance number during the kick-off for this year's 27th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival with the theme "Fatta I Irenciata, Abwáari Yasch Schówammwir, Showcase our Inheritance," at the Civic Center in Susupe Thursday night. Inset shows Lt. Gov. Timothy Villagomez, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture executive director Cecilia T. Celes, Festival chair Ramona Rebuenog, DCCA acting Secretary Melvin Faisao, Little Miss Marianas Kayla Sablan Borja and board members during the opening ceremony.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



## Lawyers Yana and Atalig return to jail

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Lawyers Reynaldo O. Yana and Antonio M. Atalig were ordered back to jail yesterday

for their continued failure to return \$1.3 million in attorneys' fees that they received in the controversial Angel Malite estate probate.

See **LAWYERS** on Page 4

## Ahead of the curve in no-smoking trend

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

While a bill that seeks to outlaw public smoking in the Northern Marianas awaits legislative approval, a handful of restaurants and bars on Saipan have already implemented either a partial

or full ban on smoking inside their establishments.

Aqua Resort Club's Costa Terrace Restaurant has been non-smoking

See **AHEAD** on Page 4



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ  
A no-smoking sign is seen at the entrance of Aqua Resort Club's Costa Terrace Restaurant.



## Japanese media back for limited stay

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Japanese media are seen patiently waiting outside the Department of Corrections building in Susupe yesterday.

The Japanese media covering the extradition case against Kazuyoshi Miura are back on Saipan. This time, there are only a few of them and they will be here for only a couple of days.

Four journalists from Nippon Television Network Corp., five

See **JAPANESE** on Page 4

## RELATED NEWS

L.A. judge wants briefing on need for Miura's presence. **PAGE 3**

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3:00 pm Bridal Fair Opening	6:00 pm Party and Bridal Make-up Competition
	8:00 pm Bridal Fashion Show

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# Local

## Bill gives PUC a year to set rates

By AGNES E. DONATO  
agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rep. Heinz Hofschneider introduced yesterday a compromise bill to address the cash flow problem being experienced by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Hofschneider's bill is a modified version of the power rates bill that the Senate shelved earlier this week. The new bill proposes to suspend for one year the rolled back rates set forth in Public Law 15-94.

In other words, the Public Utilities Commission will have one year to organize and establish utility rates. Meantime, CUC will be able to set its own rates.

The shelved version of the bill proposed to repeal P.L. 15-94. The Senate decided not to act on the bill, as members believe CUC should not be allowed to go unregulated indefinitely.

During a session of the House yesterday, Hofschneider lashed at lawmakers who, he said, do not seem to understand the urgency and gravity of CUC's financial troubles.

"By Friday (today), CUC will have no penny in its account. Is that what we are waiting for? For CUC to go on complete bankruptcy?" he asked.

The 15th Legislature passed P.L. 15-94 amid pressure from the consumers who were suffering from the sudden hike in power rates.

However, the Legislature's action hurt the utility's finances. According to CUC, the rollback, compounded by the rising cost of fuel, has caused the utility to face a monthly shortfall of about \$1 million for fuel. For months now, the cash-strapped government has ended up paying millions of dollars in fuel subsidy to CUC.

This occurred even though the 17-cent rate remained in effect for one month only. In November 2007, CUC adopted emergency regulations that enabled the utility to adjust the power rates depending on fuel prices.

But the regulations expired last month. Currently, CUC is back to charging residential customers 17.6 cents per kWh of power consumed.

## Living with Diabetes

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# L.A. judge wants briefing on need for Miura's presence

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Los Angeles Superior Court wants a briefing whether Japanese businessman Kazuyoshi Miura needs to be in L.A. for his double jeopardy argument, according to Miura's Saipan counsel.

Lawyer Bruce Berline said that, in yesterday's hearing in L.A., the judge set another hearing for May 9 only on the issue of whether the 60-year-old Miura needs to be present in California to assert his defense.

"The judge was initially siding with the prosecution. He is saying 'well yeah, we think Mr. Miura needs to be here.' But then after [attorney Mark] Geragos made his argument, the judge was favoring Mr. Geragos and that's when he said, 'look we need a briefing on this,'" Berline told reporters shortly after he emerged from the Department of Corrections during his visit with the defendant yesterday afternoon.

The Saipan attorney said they are hopeful that immediately af-

ter that May 9 hearing the judge will proceed to the merits of the motion to quash the arrest warrant, assuming that he rules that Miura does not need to be present in California.

Berline underscored the importance of winning that motion to quash in order for Miura's release.

"What I hope does not happen is that the judge says, 'Okay I've ruled that Mr. Miura does not have to be here, now let's set a hearing on the merits of the motion to quash for two weeks from now,'" he said.

"I don't want to be there. I want these things done by May 9 and I am sure Mr. Miura wants it done by May 9 and Mr. Geragos wants it done by May 9," he said.

Berline said they are hoping that the judge will take into consideration Miura's detention

on Saipan and there is an urgent need for his ruling on the motion

to quash the arrest warrant.

Miura has been in detention

since authorities arrested him at the Saipan International Airport on Feb. 22 in connection with the murder of his wife in Los Angeles in 1981.

## Stanley let's go of PUTC post

Rep. Stanley Torres resigned yesterday as a member of the House committee on public utilities to avoid any possible conflict of interest with his planned appeal of a court decision concerning the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"Because I was recently selected to serve on the committee that has oversight responsibilities of CUC, I want to avoid any possible conflict of interests and so I resign from PUTC," said Torres, who had previously quit as chairman of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications.

Torres, along with his staff member Jack Angello, is questioning the legality of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's executive order that led to the revision of the electric rate structure in the Commonwealth.

CUC administrative hearing officer Linn Asper had determined that the governor's reorganization order was unconstitutional as it violated the doctrine of separation of powers. But last week, Associate Judge David A. Wiseman reversed Asper's ruling.

Torres announced yesterday that he had instructed his legal counsel to appeal Wiseman's decision.

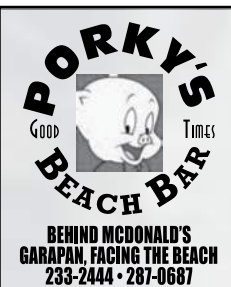
He maintained that seven judges—including three from the U.S. Court of Appeals, three from the CNMI Supreme Court, and Asper—had concluded that the governor's power to reorganize government functions and duties through executive power is limited, and that a governor cannot enact legislation or amend existing law.

"The Constitution allows a governor to reorganize the executive branch, but only the CNMI Legislature is authorized to pass or amend laws. The governor amended the laws and allowed CUC to charge an illegal rate—and that was wrong," said Torres. (Agnes E. Donato)

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# Bill identifies funds for govt, CUC operations

By AGNES E. DONATO  
agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A new bill has been introduced to help the government deal with its projected budget shortfall and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. with its fuel purchases.

The House bill, cosponsored by Speaker Arnold I. Palacios and Rep. Heinz Hofschneider, would grant the governor unlimited power to reprogram lapsed funds to cover the budget shortfall.

It would double government fees for

driver's license, vehicle registration, firearms license, fingerprinting, police report, safety stickers, copies of any public records from the Department of Public Safety, and marriage license.

Help would also come the way of the cash-strapped utility.

Under the bill, some \$2.15 million in earmarked non-general fund revenue will be appropriated to CUC for its fuel payments.

CUC would be allowed to use up to 50 percent of the security deposit paid by residential customers, again so the utility can buy fuel. But CUC must return the security deposit funds within three years.

Further, the government contribution rate to the NMI Retirement Fund would be reduced from 18 percent to 11 percent of the total payroll, and half of the savings will go to CUC's fuel expenses; \$80,000 will go to the Public Utilities Commission for its start up costs and operating expenses for the current fiscal year. The governor may reprogram the balance.

## JAPANESE

From Page 1

reporters and crew of the Fuji Television Network Inc., two staff members from Nippon Hoso Kyokai, and one reporter from Kyodo News, started arriving since Tuesday.

The visiting journalists came from Tokyo and their bureau offices in Manila and Malaysia.

The journalists are here in preparation for the outcome of the Miura hearing that was held in Los Angeles yesterday.

Some journalists told *Saipan Tri-*

*bune* that since the judge in California did not issue a decision and set a new hearing, they will be leaving Saipan again starting today, Friday.

They said they may return before the May 9 hearing.

Ichiro Kabasawa, Japan Broadcasting Corp. NHK general bureau for Asia (Bangkok), said he and a cameraman from Jakarta arrived on Tuesday.

Kabasawa said six people from Tokyo were supposed to follow them, but they canceled their flight after learning that no ruling was issued in L.A.

"I hope this case will be finished as soon as possible," Kabasawa said.

He said he is hoping that the L.A. judge will soon decide whether to order Miura to be flown to L.A. or have him released.

Kabasawa previously covered the Miura proceedings on Saipan for 10 days.

He said the Saipan air is fresh and people can always see the blue sky, unlike in Bangkok where he is assigned.

"I like the weather here, the ocean, and the people," he said. "In Bangkok you cannot see the sky because of fog and pollution."

Kabasawa said the people here are very polite and the prosecutors and lawyers treat the reporters well.

Tomohiro Araoi, an engineer/cam-

eraman of Nippon TV Network Corp., said four of them came from Tokyo on Wednesday.

Araoi said they may return to Tokyo either today, Friday, or on Saturday.

"Nothing exciting is going on here. We don't know the ending of Miura's story," said Araoi, smiling.

A reporter from Fuji Television Network Inc., who requested anonymity, said five of them arrived from Manila, Malaysia, and Tokyo Wednesday afternoon. He said he was previously here for 21 days for the Miura coverage.

"I like Saipan...the beautiful sea and the people are very warm and

kind," he said.

Akiko Yamamoto of Nippon TV Network Corp., said she came from Tokyo yesterday and that she is leaving today, Friday.

"I enjoy my stay on Saipan. The people are very kind," she said.

Yamamoto said she was here for three weeks before but that she had no time to swim as there was too much work. "I hope I can come back as a tourist," she said.

Although the weather is hot, she said she likes it here. "I prefer to be in hot weather than to be cold," Yamamoto said, smiling.

## AHEAD

From Page 1

since April 2007—making it a full year that the outlet has been tobacco free, according to the Achugao hotel's food and beverage sales manager Yoshimi Yanagisawa

She said that nonsmokers have liked the change and are quite comfortable with the no-smoking policy at Costa Terrace.

"We received a comment from a nonsmoking customer saying that eating in a smoking and enclosed area is like dining in a swimming pool so he appreciated that Aqua Resort has made the restaurant a nonsmoking establishment," she said. "We've been getting good comments on how clean the environment is, how clean the air is, and how the food no longer smells like smoke."

Surprisingly, even their loyal patrons who are known smokers have welcomed the new no-smoking policy, said Aqua Resort assistant F&B director Peding C. Sablan.

"One of our regular customer on Sunday Brunch is a chain smoker but he has kept coming back despite our no-smoking policy. Customers keep coming back because they respect the nonsmokers," she said.

On the operational side, Yanagisawa said the decision by Aqua Resort general manager Hiro Sigue to make Costa Terrace a nonsmoking restaurant has

been everything short of a Godsend.

"This really has made our lives a lot easier because we don't have to worry about reserving for smoking and non-smoking seats. There are also no more ashtray changing and no more replacements of lost ashtrays so from an operational side, it's been wonderful," she said.

Century Hotel and its in-house bar, Tribes, have also embraced the no-smoking trend, according to its general manager, Lynn A. Knight.

She said that starting March 1, 2008, the two establishments have gone "smoke-free" on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

"We've had a very positive response from our customers and may consider other nights in the future," said Knight.

Garapan tourist favorites Tony Roma's and Capricciosa, meanwhile, have also put up no-smoking signs inside their establishments and, according to its general manager Akira Onishi, it's been so far so good.

"No complaints so far from locals and tourists. Actually, we are receiving many positive comments from local guests."

Onishi said that Tony Roma's and Capricciosa have in the past made all their seats nonsmoking during busy days like Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

He added that 99 percent of Japanese reservations during Christmas season are for no-smoking tables because guests usually dine with their children.

Onishi said he is not worried one bit

about losing Japanese customers because of his decision to go smoke-free.

"The ratio of Japanese smokers are around 30 percent now, and the figure is going down year by year. Nowadays, 50 percent of men 30-39 years old still smoke, but the ladies of the same range, it's just 12 percent. We might lose some [Japanese guests] because of this decision, but not so many because 99 percent of my Japanese guests are accepting no-smoking so far. And I think I can cover what I lose from the Japanese market by bringing in more Korean and Russian customers."

He added that another positive in going smoke-free is the health and well-being of his staff.

"All of my staff are happy. Most of my staff and managers are nonsmokers, including myself. Before, we were busy only [in the] nonsmoking section, but now we can seat guests in our dining area more evenly."

Of the establishments interviewed for this story, Pacific Islands Club has the longest experience with no-smoking facilities as it has implemented a smoke-free policy inside its three restaurants—The Magellan, The Seaside Grille, and the Galley—approximately four years ago, according to the hotel's director of sales and marketing Kanae Quinn.

She said the San Antonio hotel decided to go smoke-free as a way to make the restaurants a more pleasant dining experience for all.

She, however, said that PIC has not totally disregarded smokers as both

Seaside Grill and The Galley offer outdoor seating to accommodate them.

"We have not received complaints from our Japanese and Korean guests as two of our restaurants offer outdoor options for smokers," she said.

Quinn said that, rather than put a damper on business, the no-smoking policy has even resulted in attracting more customers.

"Our guests and employees alike have all accepted the policy and it has not deterred any business. Actually, the policy has assisted PIC in gaining more local businesses and attracting families as parents do not want their children sitting in an unhealthy environment. For employees, there is less cleanup from smokers as there are no ashtrays inside the restaurants and they are less affected by the secondhand smoke that can linger in one's clothing and hair," she said.

Hawaii Bar and Grill owner Andrew Salas, for his part, said there was no doubt in his mind that when he and business partner David Phan opened their new establishment it would be smoke-free.

"We cannot just talk about the dangers of secondhand smoke. We have to do something about it. So when we opened [Hawaii Bar and Grill], we decided to make it a no-smoking establishment. Secondhand smoke kills people!"

Salas said he is proud to be the first bar on island that is nonsmoking and rather than deter business, his non-

smoking policy has attracted more customers than it has turned away.

"As a matter of fact that's the reason why I'm fairly successful given that we opened only last January. A lot of people come here because we are nonsmoking and they bring their kids and I love to see little kids just run over the place."

He said his smoke-free establishment has also benefited his employees.

"My staff here, they don't smoke, so I need to protect them also and they're happy [with the bar being non-smoking]. One of my entertainers here who sings every Wednesday and Saturday smokes, but he told me that he appreciates the bar being nonsmoking because he can't stand secondhand smoke when he is singing," Salas said.

The former congressman added that he is not at all concerned with losing potential customers, especially tourists from Japan.

"Our Japanese tourists respect our no-smoking establishment and they sit outside and smoke. A lot of our tourists are respectful of our culture and our tradition and our health. They respect what we say and what we do. We cannot use that as an excuse—you're either for pro-health or you're not. I'm not telling my smoking customers not to smoke, I'm just telling them to do it outside."

House Bill 16-47, sponsored by Rep. Justo S. Quitugua, proposes to make public places smoke-free. Exemptions include open-air bars, hotel rooms, and outdoor jobsites.

phone for a period of one hour per day.

In addition, he said, Yana and Atalig are to be allowed unlimited visits from their staff.

Govendo said that because Yana and Atalig are being held for civil contempt, they are no longer to be dressed in the prison coveralls.

"They are to be allowed to wear civilian clothing, both at their future court appearances and while imprisoned," said the judge in his written order.

## LAWYERS

From Page 1

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo said that Yana and Atalig would continue to be imprisoned until they return the attorneys' fees in the full amount of \$1,138,500 for the civil case and \$150,000 for the first distribution in the probate case, for a total of \$1,288,500.

The judge set a status conference for June 16, 2008 at 9am at which time he will consider any efforts made by the two lawyers to comply with his order to return the attorneys' fees, in whole or in part.

Govendo said he would determine at the June 16 hearing whether Yana and Atalig have purged themselves of the contempt order and should be released from jail.

Govendo issued the contempt order

against the two lawyers on March 28, 2008, and ordered them to be imprisoned until they disgorged the \$1.3 million attorneys' fees.

Since the order was issued, neither attorney has returned the fees, in full or in part.

In yesterday's review hearing, Yana and Atalig claimed that their failure to comply with the court's orders was due to the restraints placed upon them by the Department of Corrections.

monwealth's bid in establishing its own fishery and mining industries.

The resolution goes on to state that the CNMI "fervently opposes the transfer of any form of marine resource management authority over CNMI waters" to any federal agency.

"The establishment of the proposed monument seems likely to wrest control of access to these islands from the

people of the CNMI, and transfer that control to those with little familiarity with the resources in question, the history of the islands, and the culture and traditions of their people," states the resolution.

During debate on the floor, Sablan tried to set straight what she described as misconceptions about the proposed marine sanctuary. She argued that there

is no rush to make the designation, and that the government and the community can negotiate the terms of the declaration if they so choose.

She also offered to amend the resolution to remove provisions that reject the proposal outright, and to focus on the call against any unilateral decision by Washington on the issue.

Her amendments were rejected.

## MARINE

From Page 1

imously earlier this week.

In the resolution, the lawmakers said there has been little dialogue between the U.S. and CNMI governments on the proposal. They added that most of the CNMI citizens "have not and would

not formally endorse" the proposal until more information is gathered and considered.

The lawmakers also expressed concern that the designation would prevent fishing and mining activities within the 115,000 square-mile area that is being eyed for the Northern Islands Marine National Monument. Such restriction, they said, may conflict with the com-



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# Budget issues crimp TES hiring of teachers

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN  
rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Tanapag Elementary School has not been able to hire teachers needed for students with special needs because of budget issues, according to TES principal Frances Ulloa.

She said that one of the issues raised by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, which recently visited the school, is for TES to address the need to provide for special-needs students.

"It's not necessarily instructional support. What they [WASC visitors] saw here is that with the regular services that we provide, students with

special needs are not able to meet their full potential."

"Since the PSS [Public School System] has opened up more schools, the budget has not been enough [to hire teachers for this purpose]," Ulloa said.

She explained that most of the cost of personnel comes from the local budget, and because there had not been enough, teachers for students with special needs had not been fulfilled.

The WASC team had also recommended more work done on the TES assessment.

"I was very excited about data assessment this year. But since I had to

cover the students this October, it was put aside," Ulloa said.

Ulloa has been playing a dual role: as an administrator and a teacher since one of the TES teachers had resigned and no one else was available.

She said there has been ongoing communication between herself and the teachers on the assessment; however the WASC team recommended they strengthen it.

"They see that in accreditation; it's happening already. We just need to strengthen it. We need to maximize our resources and our capacity in terms of assessment and data," Ulloa said.

Another recommendation raised

by the WASC team is the need for TES to comply with the No Child Left Behind Act by 2009 by means of having non-Highly Qualified Teachers meet certification or Praxis status.

The school's non-HQTs are being asked to submit an action plan indicating what their plans are in order to meet the 2009 deadline.

Ulloa is registering her non-HQTs via online registration and the teachers will be mailed back with a schedule or availability of the Praxis test.

Ulloa said that if the school plans to continue receiving federal money, it would have to comply with the requirements.

"We're very hopeful that teachers meet the certification or whatever is required of the NCLB. If we don't fulfill it, the district would have explain or give justification what the reason is and maybe they can grant us another year," Ulloa said.

She explained that federal allocation has been helping the school tremendously and that the school has almost become dependent on it in order to maintain operations.

WASC chairwoman Linda Kewin had said that she was impressed with the school's creative ways of maximizing its limited resources.

"We're just trying the best we can do that," Ulloa said.

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# 'More Rota charter flights are coming'

## Average stay of tourists in inaugural flights is 4-5 days

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

After the first three charter flights scheduled during Japan's Golden Week, more are expected to fly to Rota in the next few months, according to Pacific Development, Inc. president Yoichi Matsumura.

The PDI executive said that aside from the April 27 inaugural Rota charter flight and the April 30 and May 4 services, a charter flight to the CNMI's southernmost chain has been confirmed for the end of June and among the

passengers in this flight is the screening committee for the Rota Blue Triathlon.

"About 60 young Japanese executives composing the first leg of screening are already booked in the June flight."

The months of July, August, September, and October will prove to be the busiest in terms of charter flights to Rota as Matsumura said that 18 charter flights are scheduled during this period.

In related news, Matsumura clarified that passengers arriving in the charter flights this April and May will stay on Rota between four to five days.

Matsumura, whose company is operating the charters brought in by Continental Airlines, said that tourists aboard the inaugural flight on April 27 will stay on the islands for—four days and three nights.

Meanwhile, the charters that will arrive on April 30 and May 4 will spend five days and four nights on Rota.

The PDI official earlier said that he will fly to Rota during the weekend along with his staff that includes general managers Masanori Takahashi and Gordon Marciano, assistant general managers

Takeshi Okawa (for group and package division) and Maho Miyakoshi (for customer service division).

KNT Kinki Nippon Tourist, PDI's parent company, announced last February that it will bring in 40 new charter flights to Rota in the next couple of years.

The Rota charter flight are expected to bring in some 8,000 tourists to Rota in about a year. KNT has chartered Continental Airlines to bring in the new Rota flights. Continental Airlines is planning to use its 155-seater Boeing 737 aircraft to service the island.

## Flashback

### A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

#### April 25, 2000

#### Kiyu sees poll victory in team-up with Pepero

Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez expressed confidence yesterday over winning the Republican primary, saying his team-up with Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan assures victory for GOP in next year's elections. "We're going to work for it. I feel that with my record, along with Pepero's record, we're going to make a better team," he told in an interview, his first since Mr. Sablan announced his running mate two weeks ago.

#### House poised to ax changes to 2000 budget

The House of Representatives is set to hold a special session today to reject amendment made by the Senate to the FY 2000 budget proposal, a move that is expected to bring the issue to bicameral table in an effort to reach a compromise between the two chambers. The session, scheduled at 11:00 a.m., is the first since the lower house adjourned its first regular session in late March and follows passage of the budget bill by senators last April 6.

#### CDA backs House efforts on private home financing

The Commonwealth Development Authority is backing a CNMI House of Representatives initiative that urges the federal government to provide indigenous Northern Marianas residents easy access to private home financing. CDA Board Chair John S. Tenorio said the House Resolution filed by Rep. William Torres would strengthen the agency's efforts to encourage private financing institutions to offer guaranteed home mortgage packages to local CNMI residents.

#### April 25, 2001

#### Juvenile offenders increasing

The Division of Youth Services yesterday reported an alarming increase in the number of juvenile delinquents in the Northern Marianas, with Hopwood Junior High School students topping the list of young offenders. At least 50 percent or about 54 of the 101 offenses committed by CNMI youths for the month of March alone were reported among Hopwood students; 37 of which were truancy while 17 were for alleged possession of controlled substance.

#### Taiwanese investors show interest in NMI

A group of Taiwanese investors has signified intentions to infuse fresh capital into the Northern Marianas by venturing into computer software and furniture production, a development enticed by recently-enacted investment incentives law. Free Trade Zone Authority Chair Karl Reyes met with Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Director-General Leo Chen-Jan Lee last week where possible business ventures by Taiwanese investors into the CNMI were discussed.

#### Board seats reserved for young lawmakers

Youth Congress senators have just landed seats within government-appointed thinking blocks with a freshly-passed legislation that allows for members of the youth group to participate in official government proceedings. Governor Pedro P. Tenorio has inked his approval to a legislation that would accord members of the youth sector the privilege to sit down with government-commissioned organizations as they go about important decision-making activities.

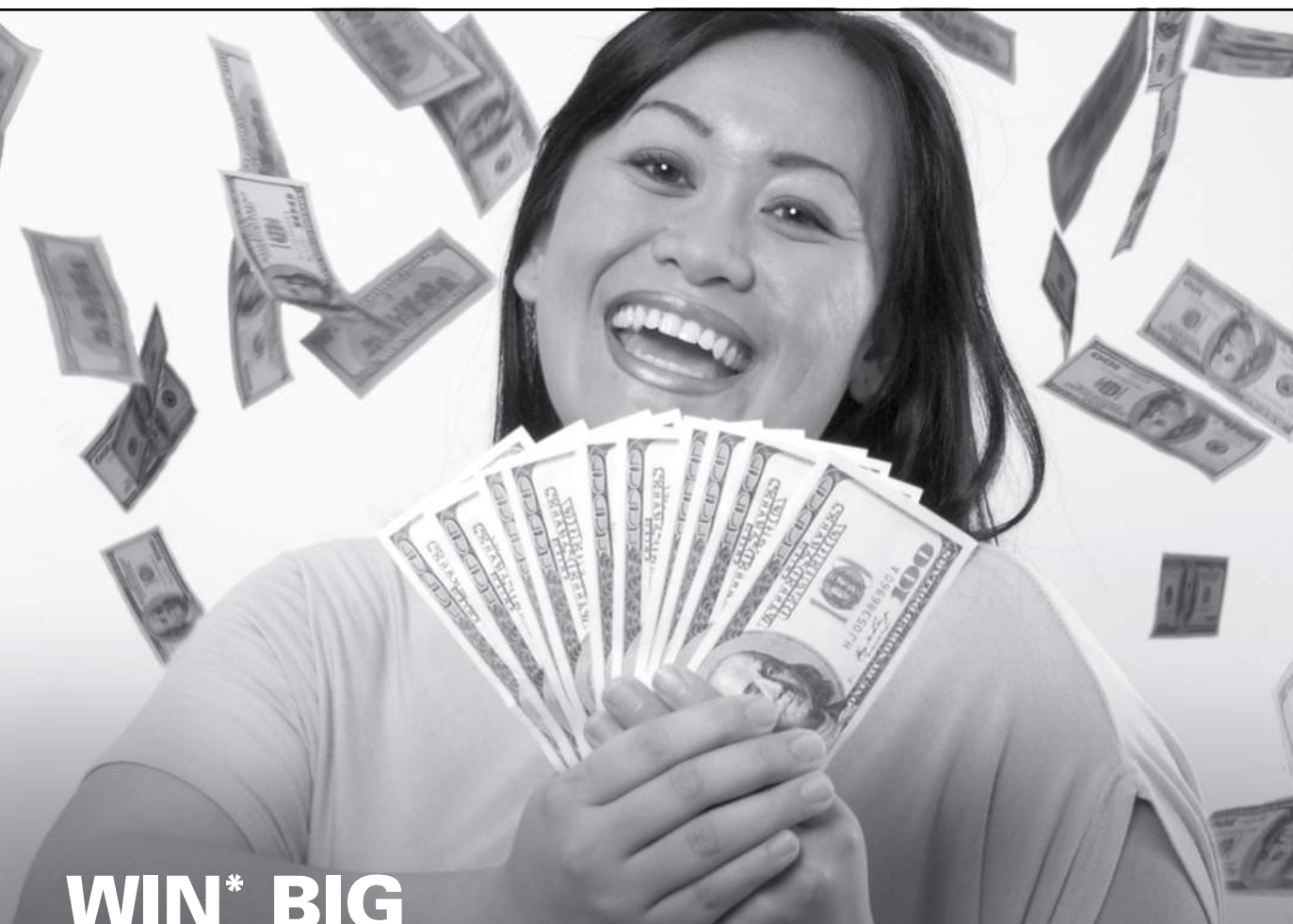
#### April 25, 2002

#### DOLI: No fee to get ATB

Applications for Authorization to Board letters are not for a fee. Labor and Immigration Secretary Joaquin A. Tenorio said this, confirming that he received a complaint alleging that there were fixers charging a fee in exchange for facilitating ATB applications. As this developed, Philippine Consul General Julia Heidemann echoed the reminder that ATBs are not for a fee, saying that based on the complaint she learned from a meeting with Tenorio, the fixers have been charging as much as \$120.

#### First 100 days: A humbling experience

The Babauta administration marked its first 100 days in office last Tuesday, with Gov. Juan N. Babauta saying that, beyond the specific problems and issues facing his administration, what he considers the biggest challenge for his government is changing the attitude of the community. "To work together, to pull our resources together and to lessen the acrimonious relationship that have gone through between the administration and the Legislature in the past, which are things that slow us down," Babauta said.



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# Historical items donated to the NMI Museum

The NMI Museum of History and Culture was the recent recipient of a collection of historical items, donated by Floyd Masga. An April 1945 edition of *National Geographic* and a number of World War II Japanese peso notes were presented to the museum.

The *National Geographic* features a 30-page article on the war on Saipan and Tinian, complete with 24 plates. The plate images feature the civilian camps, local police, various Saipan and Tinian post-battle scenery, and the survey of damage done to the Shinto shrine and Taga stones on Tinian, among others.

The Japanese pesos, a Japanese-government issued fiat currency, were used in the Philippines during World War II. Fifty, five and one peso denominations were included in the donation.

Masga noted that, aside from wanting to support the museum and make these items available to the public, he is especially interested in having the public help identify the individuals in some of the photos included in the *National Geographic*.

The museum expresses its thanks for this donation, and the many other donations of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Floyd Masga and Polly Deleon-Guerrero present a 1945 edition of the *National Geographic* magazine, featuring Saipan and Tinian, and historic Japanese peso notes to Robert Hunter of the NMI Museum.

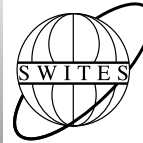
historical objects made by CNMI residents. The main purpose of the museum is to care for and make available to the public historical objects.

Museum director Robert Hunter said: "It is through generous

donations such as this, that the museum expands its collections. The museum is a repository of these very important historical objects, objects that help record and tell the story of the NMI, and that are accessible to all of the

residents of the CNMI."

The NMI Museum, located across the Sugar King Park, is open from Monday through Saturday. Contact the museum at 664-2160 for additional information. (PR)



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# Opinion

*Hafa Adai!*  
**Saipan Tribune**  
 CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
 Volume XVIII, Issue No. 116

Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,  
 Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
 Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Lynn A. Knight** PUBLISHER  
**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR  
**Mark Rabago** ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

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## EDITORIAL

### Fair pay, fair play

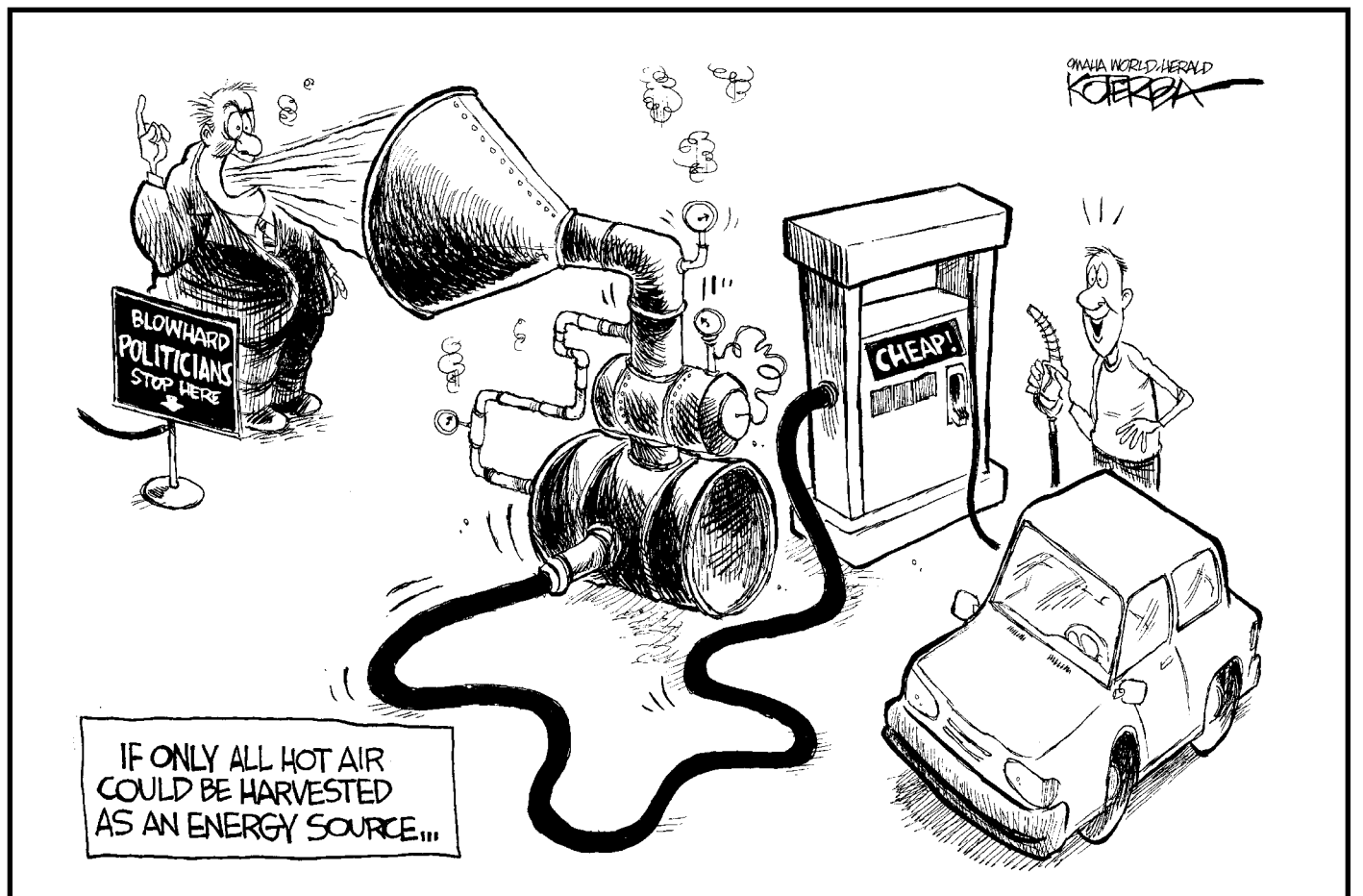
For nearly a year, employees have been living under a legal scheme that makes it exceedingly difficult for them to seek redress for pay discrimination. The Senate on Wednesday has the opportunity to consider legislation that would remedy the situation. Lawmakers should agree to an up-or-down vote on the matter and, with a few minor changes in the language, they should pass it.

Last May, the Supreme Court ruled in *Ledbetter v. Goodyear* that employees who believe they've been paid less because of their sex, race, religion or national origin have 180 days after an employer makes a discriminatory pay decision to file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. While it is a legally defensible reading of the law, the decision is impractical. Because of the highly secretive nature of pay decisions, most employees rarely know at the time that they're being given short shrift, meaning they would be likely to miss the filing deadline and be barred from pursuing their claims. Before the 5 to 4 Supreme Court decision, the majority of the federal appeals courts and the EEOC considered every paycheck that reflected discriminatory pay as triggering a new opportunity to file a grievance; the bill now before the Senate essentially would restore this approach. The bill, which the White House unfortunately subjected to a veto threat this week, would also keep in place provisions that cap damages at \$300,000 and prevent workers from collecting more than two years' worth of back pay.

Business leaders argue that the paycheck trigger would allow employees to "sit on their rights" and wait to file suit until years have passed in order to make it more difficult for companies to defend against old allegations. This argument is utterly without merit. In the first place, those who know—or have strong suspicions—that they're being discriminated against are unlikely to stay silent and continue to receive what they believe are unjustifiably and illegally low paychecks. Second, the new legislation would allow a paycheck to trigger a new opportunity to file suit only if that paycheck continues to reflect discriminatory pay. The Congressional Budget Office concluded that it's unlikely that many more claims of pay discrimination would be filed under the legislation than were filed before the Supreme Court eliminated the paycheck trigger in 2007.

Before passing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, lawmakers should tweak some of the language to close possible loopholes that could have unintended consequences. For example, lawmakers should clean up language that could be read to allow someone other than the employee to bring the Title VII claim. Minor changes aside, the legislation restores to workers a fair shot at making their case when they suspect they've been the victim of discrimination in pay.

(c) 2008, The Washington Post



## The govt, Legislature's continued long-term neglect Resulting in millions in financial losses to the Fund

All retirees and employees of the government who are members of the Retirement Fund should be aware of an important meeting scheduled for today (Friday, April 25) at 10:30am in the House Chamber. The Fund's actuary, Buck Consultants, will address the rapid diminishment of the Fund's financial solvency, and thus the future of the member's pensions. Various projections will no doubt be discussed concerning how much longer the Fund can continue to pay pensions should the government continue to avoid paying what it owes the Fund and thus all members. If you are able, go witness your government at work; it's your money and your representatives.

This is an important briefing considering the serious financial condition of the Fund and the approximately 2,000 or more people in the community who have already retired, many of whom depend on their twice monthly payments for their livelihood. There are probably two and one half times more people currently working for the government than those retired who contribute a portion of their monthly salary into the Fund's defined benefit plan in anticipation of that future time when they may not be able to work because of ill health or some other reason.

Both groups, those retired and those still working, placed their trust in the government and the Fund's administration to maintain the sanctity and integrity of the Fund and its assets.

According to census figures for the year 2000, government employment totaled 4,996 which, at the time, I would imagine a large number participated in the Fund by contributing a portion of their salary toward their retirement as payroll deductions—MONEY THEY HAD ALREADY EARNED.

The hard work and dedication exhibited by the current Fund's administration and staff as displayed in the day-to-day management of the member's money must be acknowledged with thanks. Regrettably, I am afraid the same can't be said of some members of the Legislature and central government—past and present—who have permitted the Fund to lapse into its present diminished financial condition. Failure of the legislature and the central government to correct this urgent situation by not paying the money due the Fund is now causing a major meltdown of the member's invested resources which is seriously jeopardizing the future financial security of all members, both present and future.

If you are retired and paying off a home or an improvement loan; making payments to the bank for a vehicle; providing money toward the education of a family member; planning an off-island trip; meeting unusual medical expenses—or whatever—you had better pay close attention to your—and I stress the word "your"—money. Years ago you entrusted the government and the plan it sold you with a portion of your paycheck for purposes of investing it the Fund's investment portfolio.

Sadly, the central government has not been paying its legally required monthly employer's contribution and other mandated obligations due the Fund with the result that the Fund has no new mon-

By **WILLIAM H. STEWART**  
 Special to the Saipan Tribune

*William H. Stewart is a forensic economist, historian, and military cartographer.*



ey to invest and unfortunately must now "dip" into the money that had been invested, which was once hoped would remain invested to generate interest for use to pay pensions in the future. Tragically, this is not being done.

This serious situation, unless corrected immediately, is certain to adversely effect many retirees, together with all widows and widowers of deceased members who depend upon their monthly allotment.

The central government's employer contributions (when paid to the Fund) as well as the allotments of all participating employees cannot lie idle. They must be invested to earn more money. When the government fails to pay its obligation as it has for several years—or when the Legislature fails to allocate money that it has authorized by law—the retirees, both present and future, will suffer as a result of having been deprived of this money and the interest which could have been earned for them. A year ago the government owed the Fund \$85 million in employer contributions alone, not to mention other money owed the Fund; it's a lot more now.

Since the money that's invested and the interest it's generating can't be seen it may be hard for some to grasp this fact as being too abstract to conceive and who erroneously believe that if you can't see it or touch it, it doesn't really exist. Not true.

Because there are gains and losses in the market, as anyone who watches the news on CNN will know, the Fund's investment portfolio fluctuates up and down—it is rarely static. Additionally, the monthly payouts don't always remain constant from one period to another. Both sides of the financial equation are fluid—ever changing—which can certainly be dramatically examined on an annual basis.

Fund administrators have been trying for several years to collect from the government money rightly owed the Fund with little success. Apparently, preservation of the Fund has been, and continues to be, a very low priority of the central government and Legislature. Many misinformed politicians and government officials believe the Fund has millions of dollars available. This is not true. The money that the Fund does have must be invested—and remain invested—for those retiring five, 10 years from now and beyond. Presently the Retirement Fund operates under the handicap of an unfunded government liability of many millions of dollars. The problem is not with the administration of the Fund and its employees who do a good job, but with the government's failure to pay its obligation and

See **THE GOVT** on Next Page



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# Bug vs windshield

By ED STEPHENS

Like an old rock song said, “Sometimes you’re the windshield, sometimes you’re the bug.” In the fuel world, the CNMI is the bug, of course, and the prices are the windshield.

Would you like to know what you can do about high gasoline prices? That’s easy: nothing.

In one way, that is good news. Here’s why: The Commonwealth gasoline market seems reasonably efficient. If the local market was broken, we could fix it. But it ain’t broken.

Some good attention is being devoted to the market. Taxes are, of course, a distortion in any market. And as reported in yesterday’s

## Letters to the Editor

# A step toward stabilizing the CNMI

Hey Saipan: Check out the proposed Resident Foreign National Act that is being introduced in the NMI House of Representatives. I believe it is a positive step in stabilizing the CNMI. I believe when workers have incentive they will be more productive. It frustrates me when the contract laborers are put down and berated. They have been our accountants, teachers, trash collectors, baby sitters and caregivers. We do owe them. If they have the ability to move around and start businesses, it will only improve the CNMI. Businesses will come out of the woodwork, abused workers could move to other jobs and wages would increase. Labor complains would greatly be reduced. A competitive market improves us.

Please contact the folks on the hill for their support. It is past time of being afraid of contract workers. We all need to get trained, educated and a better work ethic to improve the CNMI.

**Del Benson**  
via e-mail

# Waste of taxpayer’s money

The permanent residence bill that some lawmakers are trying to pass shows how lawmakers waste taxpayers’ money. As is being reported, U.S. Immigration laws will override all CNMI immigration laws. The amount of hours put into this bill by who should be calculated, then the amount of money wasted on this effort should be reimbursed to the taxpayers. The government can save money by not committing such waste.

**William J. Ballard**  
Capital Hill, Saipan

# Way too late

My dear Mr. Stewart, in regards to your questions regarding the moribund Retirement Fund lawsuit against the government, why do you think that a totally corrupt government (all three branches) and a totally apathetic people (still voting family ties) will ever change? We have communicated on this subject before and I still believe it is due to the fact that all of the current “leaders” (a joke) grew up during Navy times where Uncle Sam always bailed them out and they never had to be accountable to anyone for their failures has led to this situation. I can see that the Retirement Fund *will* collapse and only then will people wail and moan. Of course, by then it would be way too late...

**Frank Oliver**  
Sahuarita, AZ

# Mass transit proposal

With the soaring fuel prices and vehicle registration soon to be raised, I was just wandering if our hard working elected leaders have ever thought of re-implementing the mass transit system to help the less fortunate citizens go around our beautiful island. The community would appreciate a prompt response from our hard working leaders.

**Greg Camacho**  
Kagman, Saipan

*Saipan Tribune*, Rep. Ray Yumul has sponsored a bill that seeks to impose a two-day per month “holiday” from the 15 cent per gallon tax on gasoline sales when the go-juice exceeds (as it does now) four bucks a gallon.

That’s a well-intentioned approach, and it’s refreshing to see someone actually support lowering, not raising, the CNMI’s tax bite. But this particular plan, or at least this aspect of it, isn’t one I’d suggest. In terms of economics, if gasoline taxes are considered too high to be optimal, then why not just reduce the tax rate? Or, if they’re not too high, then why not leave it alone? A two-day per month holiday seems like a mighty cumbersome way to address what should be a very simple issue.

If you want to reduce the market distortions of taxation, making a simple tax more complicated is counter-productive.

I have to admit that 15 cents a gallon seems like a reasonable tax rate, at least to the extent that it’s used to build roads for the people paying the tax. I don’t know where that money goes. But gasoline taxes, like all taxes on sales, are probably the least onerous ways to raise revenues.

Count your blessings, folks. Given the sorry state of the CNMI economy and the incredibly risky nature of doing business here, we’re very (very) lucky to have such a clean, efficient, and pleasant gasoline retailing system. This is one of the few gears in the CNMI economy that hasn’t been stripped, rusted, or stolen.

That’s the local picture.

Which leads me to the big picture, and this one isn’t very rosy. I can’t identify any factor that explains why oil has run from about \$22 a barrel (yearly average) in the year 2002 up to an eye-popping \$118 a barrel (yikes!) now. You can, by the way, still get an instant

reading of the global price of oil at SaipanBlog.com.

If you’d like to veer into some spookiness, here’s your chance. This isn’t some random pricing hiccup. This isn’t Mr. and Mrs. Average in Asia buying their first car. This isn’t even the collapsing dollar. These factors all play a role, but there has got to be something else that’s driving this gig.

I think we’re seeing a huge Middle East worry premium, for the simple and elegant reason that I can’t think of anything else to explain what’s going on. And if the smart money thinks there’s trouble brewing in the Middle East, and thus threatening oil supplies, then I’m darned sure not betting against it. Winds of war. Spooky.

More spookiness, turning back to the local scene: As things stand now, even without some bad headlines coming from Tehran or some such place, the CNMI hasn’t yet felt the full brunt of high oil prices. The airline industry hasn’t even begun to come to terms with this problem, and when reality hits, it’s going to hit hard. Want to have morbid fun? Start checking air fares from Saipan to the outside world. I spot-checked a couple, and I was not amused. And CUC bills? I don’t even want to think about that gig.

This could get worse, folks. The pain hasn’t even fully hit yet; not globally, not locally. Even if oil prices don’t go up, they are so high now that the problems will be cascading through the economy over the next six to 12 months.

We’re the bug on this one. And there are a lot of windshields coming right at us.

*Ed’s column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at SaipanBlog.com and TropicalEd.com.*

# Doctors who kill themselves

By DAVID KHORRAM, M.D.  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

This week’s issue of *Newsweek* magazine features an essay by this same title by David Noonan, highlighting the problem of suicide among doctors. Believe it or not, doctors have the highest suicide rate of any profession. “Struggling in Silence,” a documentary film which will appear on public television stations, examines this problem.

The underlying cause of suicide is depression. For decades we have recognized that depression is not simply sadness caused by the bad occurrences in life. It’s related to a chemical imbalance in the brain, and is treatable with medication.

According to Noonan’s essay, the rate of depression among doctors is the same as in the general population, but it remains undiagnosed and untreated in more doctors. You’d think that doctors would recognize the signs of depression within themselves and seek treatment, but it seems to be that being a doctor prevents seeking help. You see, there is pressure among physicians to be strong, and although patients can accept a doctor with some physical ailments (like diabetes or high blood pressure), the public is less likely to accept a doctor with depression.

The pressure to avoid medical care for depression is tremendous among doctors. Every year, when I receive my licensing renewal applications, there is a question on there that asks whether or not the doctor has had any mental health issues. Of course, licensing boards have a responsibility to protect the public from a physician

whose mental condition may harm the public, but depression is generally not one of those kinds of problems. But just seeing the question on the renewal application can be enough to nudge a doctor away from seeking care.

The suicide rate is higher among doctors in part because they have a higher success rate when they attempt suicide. They know what they’re doing. They know the human body, and what it takes to stop a pulse. They have access to lethal drugs. They know how to use them.

The suicide rate among women doctors is even higher than for men. A female physician is more than twice as likely to commit suicide as a non-physician.

Depression often strikes young adults, and medical schools are currently developing programs to help these young doctors-in-training to seek help for depression that may be starting to afflict them.

Depression, of course can strike anyone, and anti-depressants are the most subscribed group of medications in the United States. It’s ironic that the ones writing the prescriptions are the least likely to seek their benefit.

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*David Khorram, MD is a board certified ophthalmologist and director of Marianas Eye Institute and the author of the book, World Peace, a Blind Wife, and Gecko Tails. Comments and questions are welcome. Call 235-9090 or email him through www.MarianasEye.com, or leave comments at www.MarianasEye.blogspot.com.*

## THE GOVT

From Page 10

in particular with legislative inaction.

During the “boom” years billions of dollars were available to the government from a variety of sources (see below) and yet those in power failed miserably to invest in an efficient power system. They failed to provide 24-hour islandwide potable water; they let the level of medical care diminish, and neglected many other issues otherwise considered as a reflection of Third World economies. Is it any wonder that the politicians also failed to honor the government’s obligation to retirees? I’ll let you be the judge.

Over the 1986 to 2004 time frame, the NMI government’s internally generated revenue was \$3.07 billion. During this period the total expenditures on capital improvement projects in the Commonwealth as generated by their own internal sources was a meager 3.2 percent. Over the above period, other government expenditures were wages and salaries \$1.6 billion (64 percent) and all other expenditures of \$807.5 million (32.8 percent). The vast majority of the total expenditures made on capital improvement infrastructure projects resulted not from locally generated revenues but largely as a result of U.S. financial assistance in the form of program grants and loans and Covenant Funds.

Over the period 1986 - 2004 the total reported business gross revenue generated by the private sector was \$31.3 billion. This business income also generated tax revenue for the government. Add

to the above \$393.6 million in section 702 Covenant grants from the federal government (from the 2nd Agreement in 1985 to the 3rd Agreement for funding extending until FY2000) and it can readily be concluded that U.S. financial assistance has accounted for the bulk of the islands’ infrastructure costs.

The above sums do not include the myriad of Federal program grants provided the islands in the form of education, health and human services, transportation, housing and energy assistance, food stamps, etc., all provided by the U.S. government which meant the island government did not have to spend its own money to provide these programs. Since the inception of Commonwealth status the precise amount of Federal program assistance over and above Covenant funds is unknown but my estimate is more than a billion dollars. Again, these were funds for programs the CNMI did not have to finance from its own internally generated sources.

With the kind of money available to the government as summarized above, in my judgment there is absolutely no excuse for the central government and the Legislature to have permitted the Retirement Fund to disintegrate to the level it has with the real possibility of causing a disastrous financial loss to a couple thousand retirees.






*Editor’s Note: With several decades of international experience as an economist and investment advisor for development banks and finance institutions in North Africa, the Bahamas, Thailand’s Board of Investment and the Inter-American Development Bank, the author offers a perspective and point of view on issues not always provided by the government or Fund administrators.*



Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼76°	▲84° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Sunny	▲85 ▼75
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼75
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▼75

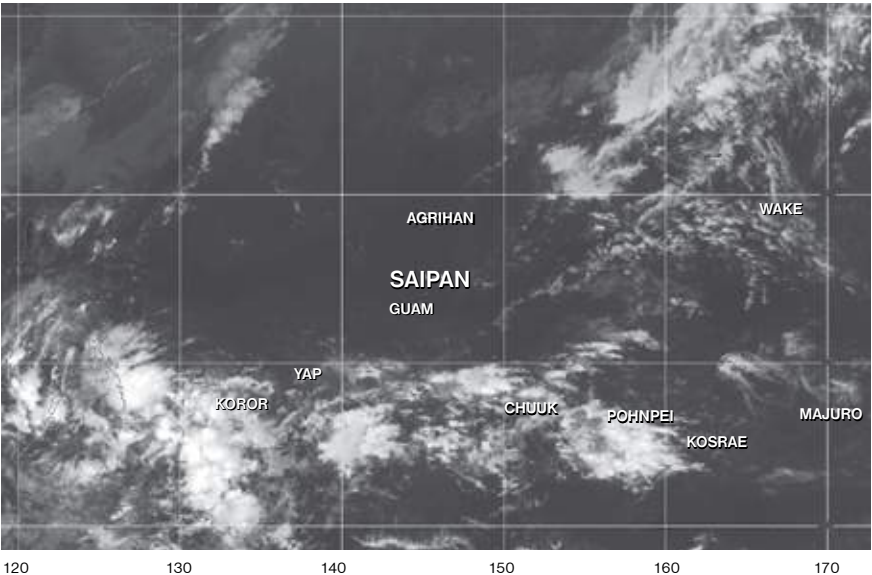
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Sunny	▲66 ▼53
Beijing	Sunny	▲63 ▼50
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲77 ▼70
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲81 ▼71
London	Cloudy	▲61 ▼48
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲78 ▼56
Manila	Showers	▲94 ▼77
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲71 ▼52
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲83 ▼70
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲74 ▼51
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲66 ▼49
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲63 ▼52
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲65 ▼51
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲69 ▼52
Salem	Cloudy	▲55 ▼42
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲66 ▼51
Seoul	Rain	▲56 ▼44
Tokyo	Rain	▲68 ▼50
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲75 ▼59

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
4:44AM Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
9:16AM Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
4:53PM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2008**  
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N134E to 22N130E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found along and up to 270 miles northwest of the cold front. A second cold front extends from 25N157E then continues as a shear line to 20N15E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 275 miles northwest of the cold front. A surface trough trade-wind convergence and upper air divergence are combining to produce scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between the equator and 9N from 130E to 135E. This area is south of Palau. A surface trough near Chuuk extends from 12N140E to 9N153E to 2N150E. Trade-wind convergence and upper air divergence are combining to produce scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 3N and 10N from 139E to 162E. This area extends from south of Yap to Pohnpei. A surface trough northwest of Chuuk extends from 10N153E to 12N155E. Scattered showers are found 200 miles east of the trough.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:57AM	6:33PM
Saturday	5:56AM	6:34PM
Sunday	5:56AM	6:34PM
Monday	5:55AM	6:34PM
Tuesday	5:55AM	6:34PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:41PM	9:07AM
Saturday	11:30PM	9:59AM
Sunday		10:52AM
Monday	12:16AM	11:46AM
Tuesday	12:59AM	12:39PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN  
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

### HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan  
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Sunday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$182. Off-island subscription rate is \$376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 8, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>Saipan-Rota</b> CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	<b>Rota-Saipan</b> CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
<b>Saipan-Guam</b> CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>Guam-Saipan</b> CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Narita</b> NW 078 8:40am 2:00pm Daily via Nagoya NW 075 4:45pm 7:25pm Daily	<b>Narita-Saipan</b> NW 076 10:15am 2:50pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:25am+1 Daily via Nagoya
<b>Saipan-Osaka</b> NW 083 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>Osaka-Saipan</b> NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Nagoya</b> NW 078 8:40am 11:25am Daily	<b>Nagoya-Saipan</b> NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Manila</b> CO 895 4:45pm 6:35pm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3	<b>Manila-Saipan</b> CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm 6 CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm 3
<b>Saipan-Seoul</b> OZ 604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:50am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	<b>Seoul-Saipan</b> OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
<b>Saipan-Busan</b> OZ 608 3:50am 7:20am 1,4,5,7	<b>Busan-Saipan</b> OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
<b>Guam-Manila</b> CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	<b>Manila-Guam</b> CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
<b>Saipan-Guanzhou</b> CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	<b>Guanzhou-Saipan</b> CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Hongkong</b> CO 909 6:40pm 9:25pm 1,5	<b>Hongkong-Guam</b> CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Rota</b> CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	<b>Rota-Guam</b> CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily				FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily				FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily				FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily				<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily				FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily				FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily				FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily				FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily				FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily				FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily				FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily				FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily							
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily							



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



## Letters to the Editor

# Dekada Movement and Mr. Woodruff

The Dekada Movement and Mr. Woodruff are fighting very hard to pursue their own agenda to save their faces by pacifying the local indigenous people to sup-

port their cause for improved immigration status for non-resident workers. They must pursue this route because they collected a lot of money from

poor alien workers. Imagine the amount (5,000 workers x \$100 per worker = \$500,000). This is no small potato. If you ask me, given this amount, to lobby,

fight for the cause, bend over backwards, do whatever it takes to accomplish the mission, I will likewise do it, especially with the depressed economy. Do not blame them for fighting hard!

As for the locals, do not listen to their cause because of their motives. As for our leaders sup-

porting the cause, think twice. You have the constitutional duty to prioritize the affairs of the local indigenous people as well as all U.S. citizens. Protect them from exploitation. The founding fathers and our elders did not vote to accept the Covenant with the United States to become a Commonwealth just so our people will be exploited by outside Third World influences. Our elders voted so that our generation and more generations to come will reap the benefits of being a part of the American family. Like President George W. Bush once said, stay the course! And this course is to enhance the lives of all indig-

enous and U.S. citizens in our Commonwealth. Our leaders must protect all jobs for all U.S. citizens. This mantra should be a part of our leaders daily motto: "All jobs created within the Commonwealth, belongs to all U.S. citizens of the Commonwealth." No ifs, no buts.

Also, kudos to Mr. Pellegrino and his group for initiating the Northern Marianas Trade Institute to train local residents in the trade occupations. I encourage all leaders to extend their full support to Mr. Pellegrino's noble intentions.

**Vicente M. Sablan**  
Kagman, Saipan

## A disgrace

To veteran lawmakers Heinz Hofsnieder and Victor Hocog, it is such a disgrace and enormous disrespect that both of you are products of failures in the past by not addressing our labor and immigration loopholes and flaws. Instead, the two of you assisted in flooding our homeland with foreign guest workers due to amendments after amendments of Labor and Immigration laws, especially during the Tenorio administration, in order to appease an ungrateful, foreign abuser in the early 1990s who has since packed up and

left since he could longer profit from our homeland but left his mess behind for the common indigenous Northern Mariana descent people to clean up.

Today, you are seeking to co-sponsor Tina Sablan's bill to do the same thing! The two of you, including Tina Sablan and Ed Salas, should be charged with treason and negligence, to include removal from office, since all four of you swore under oath to defend and protect our Constitution, our Covenant, laws and treaties in political union with the United States.

If any of you can remove the scar and reputation of our homeland of being accused as labor abuser, human smuggler, human exploiter, sex slaver, and so forth to include the collections of millions and millions of Compact Aid to supplement

all the expenses from your own creation in the past from such influxes of foreign guest workers, who supplanted our local workforce, driven our public services, infrastructure, education system, labor and immigration aground and other services here in our homeland, then maybe this issue can be discussed.

It's been over 100 days since the four of you had been in office and nothing to show for it other than grandstanding and wasting taxpayers' time. We have a major crisis in our homeland, such as our economy, CUC, government funding shortfalls, retirement, unemployment, education, public health and this is what the four of you have come up with to solve our economic crisis?

Taotao Tano tried to understand this issue during the past three dialogues with foreign or-

ganizations such as Dekada, Human Dignity, Movers and others but we believe that the damage has been done. The federal immigration law will supercede all labor and immigration laws for this is what a majority of foreigners fought for in our homeland. This is a sensitive matter, and to pursue such an issue is a complete disgrace, disrespect, treason and neglect of duty to your constituents. Taotao Tano sympathizes with the foreign guest workers and the many contributions they had contributed in our homeland but they were well compensated, and granting of some sort of status in our homeland was not part of their contract when they first entered. We will never be a minority in our homeland.

**Gregorio Cruz**  
President, Taotao Tano

## A call for united guest workers

There are so many reasons why guest workers need to come together. Times are changing and federalization is in the very near future. There are urgent and important issues facing us that need our immediate attention. It is necessary for us to come up with a solid plan on how to tackle these issues and the timeline. The clock is ticking and the time to stand alongside each other is right now.

The Coalition of United Guest Workers was formed to bring together all the guest workers regardless of nationality and affiliation. Our mission is to seek legal means to improve the lives of the guest workers and our families in the CNMI. We want to create a new voice for guest workers in our communities, the nation and in these changing times.

There is already a significant effort being done in the past and continuously until now which is primarily aimed at seeking better lives for guest workers. The coalition acknowledges and appreciates the huge contribution of our fellow guest workers who have been involved much earlier on. It is our sincere desire to work hand in hand with them in achieving a common goal.

If you are a guest worker who shares our mission, please attend the membership general assembly on May 4, 2008 at Garapan Central Park. If you have questions, please email me at irenebdi@yahoo.com. Families, friends and supporters of guest workers are welcome to join.

Each of us is vital in making the coalition succeed in all its endeavors. Remember that if we will not speak or stand for what we believe and hope for, who will?

United we stand! It is possible.

**Irene N. Tantiado**  
Capital Hill, Saipan

## DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

# PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform all prospective and potential CNMI Government Vendors and Contractors that LOCAL PREFERENCE PUBLIC LAW 11-87 is being displaced by **LOCAL PREFERENCE PL 15-95** and as further amended by **PL 15-118**.

Copies of current local preference public law 15-118 may be downloaded from the Website at [www.cnmileg.gov.mp](http://www.cnmileg.gov.mp)



# 2008 models have arrived!

## The All-New Altima

Luxury. Now available to all.



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## The All-New Altima Coupe

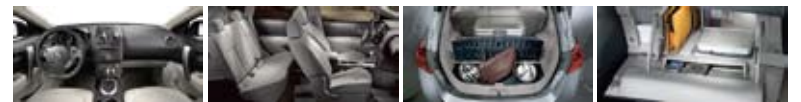
JUST ARRIVED!

## Introducing Rogue

A whole new crossover



The All-New Nissan Rogue with available intuitive All-Wheel Drive, extra-smart storage and a street-savvy 27 miles per gallon. Driving is fun again.



## 2007 MODELS CLEARANCE

NISSAN	STOCK #	COLOR	PRICE	HONDA	STOCK #	COLOR	PRICE
Versa HB	#7L360734	Blue	\$15,990.00	Fit	#7S025556	Mist	\$14,995.00
Versa S	#7L398849	White	\$15,990.00	Fit Sport	#7S025556	Blue	<del>\$16,495.00</del>
Contra	#7L61148	Gray	<del>\$16,990.00</del>	Civic DX	#7L061948	White	\$16,995.00
Frontier XE	#7C40023	White	<del>\$23,990.00</del>	CR-V LX	#7C07356	White	<del>\$22,995.00</del>
Frontier SE	#7C408903	Silver	\$26,990.00	Ridgeline	#7H505732	Silver	\$32,990.00
Pathfinder	#6C67466	Granite	<del>\$28,990.00</del>				
FORD	STOCK #	COLOR	PRICE	KIA	STOCK #	COLOR	PRICE
Ranger	#7PA31119	White	\$16,990.00	Rio	#76292370	White	\$12,995.00
Fusion	#7R12748	Pearl	<del>\$19,990.00</del>	Rio	#76292373	Gray	\$12,995.00
Escape	#7KB4581	Silver	<del>\$19,990.00</del>	Sportage	#7735376	Silver	<del>\$17,695.00</del>
F-150	#6NB05745	White	\$21,990.00	Sorento	#65602982	Green	\$18,995.00
Sport Trac	#7UA6531	Gold	<del>\$26,990.00</del>				



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# AB Nicole Cepeda completes Air Force training

On April 10, 2008 AB Nicole I. Cepeda joined the ranks of the world's greatest air, space and cyberspace force. Cepeda graduated from the Air Force Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Cepeda, the daughter of David B. Cepeda and Janet Iglesias of Dandan, successfully completed the U.S. Air Force's rigorous and demanding training process.

The mission of the Air Force Basic Military Training focuses on training individuals to become a highly respected Airman and to transform civilian recruits into disciplined, dedicated, physically fit warriors ready to serve in the United States Air Force.

Officially sworn in as an Airman in the Air Force, Cepeda

joins hundreds of fellow soldiers, sailors, Marines, and Coast Guard who enlist or currently serve at home and abroad in the nation's Armed Forces.

Following graduation, Cepeda will continue on to technical training at Lackland and upon graduating will be deployed.

"I am very proud of AB Cepeda's strength and determination in successfully completing Air Force training. I have no doubt that she will continue to prove to be successful in her future military career," said CNMI Resident Representative Pete A. Tenorio. "We honor AB Cepeda's sense of patriotism and loyalty in helping to ensure the protection of our American values, principles, and way of life."

Senior Airman David I. Cepeda Jr., the older brother of Ni-

cole, also graduated from BMT at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas in 2006. He is now stationed at McCord AFB in Washington State.

There to bear witness to the miraculous transformation of ordinary American citizen to extraordinary Airman was her father David and older brother, Senior Airman David I. Cepeda, Jr.

"I congratulate Mr. David Cepeda, Sr. and Janet Iglesias and all those parents who, over the years are making great sacrifices in defense of freedom and democracy on behalf of our great country, the United States of America," said Tenorio. (PR)

Senior Airman David I. Cepeda Jr., proud father David Cepeda and AB Nicole I. Cepeda at Lackland Air Force Base.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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**DEALS OF THE WEEK**

 <b>2006 Honda Civic DX</b> STOCK # 6L023683 <b>\$14,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>2005 Nissan Sentra</b> STOCK # 5L513530 <b>\$11,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>1999 Volkswagen Beetle</b> STOCK # XM464684 <b>\$6,995<sup>00*</sup></b>
 <b>2005 Ford Ranger</b> STOCK # 5PA78255 <b>\$12,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>2004 Nissan Sentra</b> STOCK # 4L470458 <b>\$11,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>1999 Toyota 4Runner 4x4</b> STOCK # X0221184 <b>\$9,995<sup>00*</sup></b>
 <b>2004 Ford Ranger Edge 4x4</b> STOCK # 4PB43676 <b>\$16,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>2001 Honda Prelude</b> STOCK # 1C005458 <b>\$6,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>2004 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4</b> STOCK # 4UC14321 <b>\$14,995<sup>00*</sup></b>
 <b>2005 Nissan Frontier Crew Cab 4x4</b> STOCK # 5C430810 <b>\$23,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>2006 Honda Civic LX</b> STOCK # 6L012086 <b>\$15,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>2005 Nissan 350Z</b> STOCK # 5M654094 <b>\$24,995<sup>00*</sup></b>
 <b>2004 Honda Civic DX</b> STOCK # 4H606499 <b>\$12,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	 <b>2005 Nissan Pathfinder SE 4x4</b> STOCK # 5C702102 <b>\$21,995<sup>00*</sup></b>	




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**Best Buys!**

 <b>Tea Pot With Strainer</b> <b>\$1.79</b>	 <b>Hamilton Cordless Cookie Press</b> <b>\$21.00</b>	 <b>Mini Massager</b> <b>\$7.49</b>
 <b>Boys &amp; Girls Umbrella</b> <b>\$1.99</b>	 <b>Administration 7pc. Cookware Set</b> <b>\$66.99</b>	 <b>Excell Thread 3 For \$1.00</b>

**Best Buys!**

 <b>Colgate Shave Cream 11oz.</b> <b>\$1.99</b>	 <b>Dr. Fresh Laser Sport with Razor Blade</b> <b>\$1.49</b>	 <b>Scope Mouthwash 500ml.</b> <b>\$3.99</b>	 <b>WF 60ct. Sheer Bandage</b> <b>\$2.49</b>	 <b>Lucky Shampoo 16.9oz.</b> <b>\$1.09</b>	 <b>Suave Lotion 18oz.</b> <b>\$2.99</b>
 <b>Correlle Baking Dish</b> <b>\$12.99</b>	 <b>45pc. Cutlery Set</b> <b>\$14.99</b>	 <b>Presto Pressure Cooker 4qt.</b> <b>\$34.99</b>	 <b>Tostmaster 4 Cu. Coffee Maker</b> <b>\$13.99</b>	 <b>Presto Power Pop</b> <b>\$20.99</b>	 <b>Hamilton 20c. Rice Cooker</b> <b>\$34.99</b>

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Look for the great savings

 <b>Gala Apples</b> <b>\$1.45 lb.</b>	 <b>Green Cabbage</b> <b>85¢ lb.</b>	 <b>Yellow Onions</b> <b>69¢ lb.</b>	 <b>Brown Potatoes</b> <b>75¢ lb.</b>
 <b>Fuji Apples</b> <b>\$1.45 lb.</b>	 <b>Cantaloupe</b> <b>\$1.15 lb.</b>	 <b>Extra Large White Eggs</b> <b>\$3.19 dz.</b>	 <b>Honey Dew</b> <b>\$1.35 lb.</b>

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 <b>New Zealand Boneless Beef Clod</b> <b>\$1.99 /lb.</b>	 <b>New Zealand Beef For Stew Family Bag 7lb.</b> <b>\$14.99</b>
 <b>Whole Chicken Fryers 30 lbs./case</b> <b>\$34.99 /cs.</b>	 <b>Chicken Leg Quarter 22lb./case</b> <b>\$16.99 /cs.</b>
 <b>US Pork Spareribs 20lb./case</b> <b>\$14.99 /cs.</b>	 <b>Beef Spareribs 20lb./case</b> <b>\$15.99 /cs.</b>
 <b>Asahi Sugar 4.4 lb.</b> <b>\$1.79 /ea.</b>	 <b>Springfield Coffee Creamer 35.3oz.</b> <b>\$2.99 /ea.</b>
 <b>Western Family ALL Purpose Flour 5lb.</b> <b>\$2.79 /ea.</b>	
 <b>ACE Diamonds Tuna in water 7oz.</b> <b>95¢ /ea.</b>	 <b>Soft N Gentle Bathroom Tissue 4 Roll</b> <b>\$1.99 /ea.</b>
 <b>Zee Napkins 120 ct.</b> <b>\$2.25 /ea.</b>	
 <b>Western Family Ultra Regular Bleach 96oz.</b> <b>\$3.59 /ea.</b>	 <b>Bud Family Beer Can 12pk.</b> <b>\$23.99 /cs. \$11.99 /12pk.</b>
 <b>Miller Family Beer Can 12pk.</b> <b>\$23.99 /cs. \$11.99 /12pk.</b>	

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# SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

## 2004 RAV-4 4DR. 4WD

Auto, Beige

Stock: U07-007T

License: ACB-455

Mileage: 41649

# \$14,999



## USED CARS

STOCK	YEAR	MODEL	TRANS.	MILEAGE	COLOR	LICENSE #	PRICE
<b>TOYOTA SEDANS</b>							
U08-017P	2002	AVALON 4DR.	AUTO	34812	BEIGE	ABW-469	14,999

<b>GM CARS</b>							
R07-031F	2005	AVEO 4DR.	AUTO	68515	YELLOW	ABY-169	7,999
R07-035F	2005	AVEO 4DR.	AUTO	63367	WHITE	ACD-026	7,999
R08-005	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	114073	BLUE	ACB-544	6,999
R07-013F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	39164	ORANGE	ADO-022	7,899
R07-023F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	32635	WHITE	ABX-679	7,899
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	9,999

<b>LEXUS</b>							
R08-003F	2003	LEXUS LS430	AUTO		IVORY	ADU-502	29,999

<b>TOYOTA TRUCKS</b>							
U08-020R	2006	TACOMA 4X2 A/CAB	AUTO	33442	BEIGE	ADU-051	14,999
U08-024R	2006	TACOMA 4X2 A/CAB	MANUAL	46950	RED	CWMAN001	16,099
R07-036B	2003	TACOMA 4X4 D/CAB	AUTO	85270	RED	ABR-739	15,999
R07-038F	2004	TACOMA 4X2 XTRACAB	AUTO	49609	BEIGE	ABV-159	11,899
U08-014P	2004	TACOMA 4X2	MANUAL	44000	WHITE	ACA-948	12,499

<b>OTHER CARS &amp; TRUCKS</b>							
U08-007P	2005	HYUNDAI SANTA FE 4DR.	AUTO	48717	BLACK	ACE-248	11,599
U07-106P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX DR.	AUTO	50416	SILVER	ADF-401	8,599
U07-107P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX DR.	AUTO	48755	SILVER	ADF-421	8,599
U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	8,399
U07-104T	2003	NISSAN MURANO SE	AUTO	32000	PEWT	ABZ-615	15,799
U07-095T	1999	MAZDA MILLENNIA 4DR. SEDAN	AUTO	91014	SILVER	ABP-583	7,999
CONSIGNMENT	2001	FORD ESCAPE	AUTO	39530	BLUE	ABW-458	10,899

<b>VANS</b>							
R08-006F	2003	CHEVY EXPRESS VANS	AUTO	118546	WHITE	BUS-1079	10,299

<b>SPORT UTILITY</b>							
U07-064T	2001	4RUNNER 4WD	AUTO	56882	CHAMPAGNE	ABY-153	12,599
U07-050T	2002	RAV4 4DR. 4WD	AUTO	39182	WHITE	ABW-677	12,799
U07-082T	2004	RAV4 4DR. 2WD	AUTO	68919	GRAY		12,599



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2x4x16	\$6.10/Pc	\$5.75/Pc
2x4x18	\$6.90/Pc	\$6.30/Pc
2x4x20	\$7.40/Pc	\$6.90/Pc
2x6x14	\$8.50/Pc	
2x6x20	\$11.90/Pc	
Treated		
2x4x18	\$9.90/Pc	
2x4x20	\$11.50/Pc	
2x6x12	\$11.60/Pc	
2x6x16	\$14.50/Pc	

Galvalume roof tin (Gauge 26) from Korea, better quality, long time no rusty

#### Plyform (5/8"):

Red/Black-\$24.90 • Phenolic Black-\$26.90

#### Thin-Set Mortar:

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U.S. UTILITY LUMBERS  
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### CEILING/WALL LAMPS 30% OFF

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Plywood 25% off  
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Metal stud/track \$4/pc  
Door(louver/screen) 35% off  
White plywood \$6.00/pc  
Tie wire G20/G22 \$0.4/lb  
10' pvc white pipe 4" \$12/pc  
Ceiling tile 2" x 4" \$3.00/pc  
Rope \$2/pc  
US Lumber 15% off  
Roof tin 15% off  
Shower room 35% off  
Window 35% off  
Cement board \$4/pc  
Downspout \$8/pc  
Square bar \$4/pc  
Formica \$5/pc  
Ceramic tile \$0.3/pc

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# Latest version of Guam's buildup master plan out

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Joint Guam Program Office has released a public overview of the latest version of the military's draft Master Plan, documenting months of studies and planning done to date.

The public overview shows the preferred alternative sites and notional laydown for Marine Corps operational forces, aviation facilities, housing, training and other activities. It also shows the current status of the planning efforts for new facilities at Apra Harbor to support a transient aircraft carrier. The public overview is a summation of the draft Master Plan and also includes definitions of Marine Corps activities and frequently asked questions.

The draft Master Plan is a snapshot of where the planning process is at this time and was developed to provide Department of Defense Components with an opportunity to review and provide input. The Navy's planners will continue to assess requirements, resources and develop additional detail. Additionally, environmental studies required by the National Environmental Policy Act will continue to look at the sites outlined in the draft Master Plan, as well as others. The draft Master Plan will continue to be refined and will not be considered final until the environmental impact statement has been finalized.

"Sharing the contents of the draft Master Plan is important to show our progress and keep neighboring communities updated," said Maj. Gen. (Ret.) David F. Bice, JGPO's executive director. "We will keep working closely with [Guam] Governor [Felix] Camacho and his staff to make sure the military's activities are compatible with GovGuam's vision for its future."

Camacho and Rep. Judi Won Pat, Speaker of the 29th Legislature, were briefed on the contents of the plan. The Civilian Military Task Force will be briefed in the future. JGPO has collaborated with GovGuam representatives in order to develop the draft plans. Representatives from the Governor's and Lieutenant Governor's staffs provided input to Defense leaders as working group participants. Additional details, such as the location for training activities not noted in the current draft, are still being studied and will be shared with the Guam government for feedback.

The Joint Guam Program Office facilitates the realignment of Marines from Okinawa to Guam. JGPO works within the Department of Defense and closely with the Government of Guam, U.S. Congress and Federal agencies to lead and manage the delivery of required capabilities to the Marines. (JGPO)

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**COMMUNITY BRIEFS****NMC hosts booth at Flame Tree Festival**

The Northern Marianas College will be participating in the Flame Tree Arts Festival by hosting an information booth for prospective students. Those interested in learning more about any of the degree or certificate programs offered at NMC can stop by Booth A50. Those who pick up an admission application at the NMC Booth qualify to have their application and placement test fees waived. Prospective students are highly encouraged to take advantage of this offer.

Graduates of the Northern Marianas College are also asked to sign up with the NMC Alumni Association at Booth A50. Questions regarding admission can be directed to Ms. Rosaline Cepeda at [rosalinec@nmcnet.edu](mailto:rosalinec@nmcnet.edu) or call 234-5498 ext. 1524. (NMC)

**NMI Bar examination set**

The Northern Mariana Islands Bar Examination (MBA and Essay) will be administered on Wednesday, July 30, 2008 and Thursday, July 31, 2008. All interested applicants shall obtain the application form and necessary information from the Bar Administrator by calling telephone no. (670) 236-9800, visiting the judiciary's website at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>. Or by writing to P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP 96950.

All applications and required fees must be submitted to the Bar Administrator no later than May, 30, 2008. (PR)

**Live fire training on Farallon**

The Emergency Management Office and the U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam announced yesterday that the U.S. military would be conducting live fire training on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla from April 25 to 30, 2008, from 7am to 1pm.

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla Training Area on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO's Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. (EMO)

**SNISWCD monthly meeting set**

The Saipan & Northern Islands Soil and Water Conservation District would like to inform the general public of their monthly meeting S&NISWCD meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2008, at 1pm at the Natural Resources Conversation Service Office. For more information contact our office at 234-6180. (PR)

**SSHS mid-progress reports out**

To all parents/legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School students: The Mid-Progress Report is scheduled to be picked up

on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, from 4pm to 7pm. Parents/legal guardian must pick up the Mid-Progress Report at the teacher's classroom. All students will be released at 1pm. Please join us. (PR)

**Benito Clan reunion meeting**

This is to inform the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of Vicente Gogue Taitano and Juan Gogue Taitano

that the next meeting for the "Benito Clan Reunion" will be on Wednesday, April 30, 2008, at the residence of Prescilla T. Castro and Gloyd Martin in Kagman III, at 6pm. Family

members are urged to please attend this important meeting. For more information, contact Eleanor Aldan Cepeda at 483-5974 or Cecilia Taitano Celis at 285-0607. (PR)

**APRIL  
25-27, 2008**

## *Carmen Safeway* **SUPERMARKET**

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**FOR ONE ROUND TRIP TICKET WITH \$200.00 POCKET MONEY**  
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**AND GET A CHANCE TO WIN \$25.00**  
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**Beef Flank Steak US**  
**\$3<sup>89</sup>**  
/lb.



**Corned Beef Brisket**  
**\$2<sup>09</sup>**  
/lb.



**Beef Tendons U.S.**  
**\$2<sup>29</sup>**  
/lb.



**Pork Butt Roast  
Boneless US**  
**\$1<sup>89</sup>**  
/lb.



**Hen Cornish 22 oz**  
**\$2<sup>90</sup>**  
/lb.

## GROCERIES

**Joy Dishwashing  
Liquid Lemon**  
16 oz.



**\$1<sup>25</sup>**

**Hormel Chili  
Hot w/ Beans**  
15 oz.



**\$1<sup>79</sup>**

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Decaf 39 oz.**



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**Kao Attack  
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**Yours  
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Powder**  
150 g.



**\$4<sup>59</sup>**

**House Java Curry**  
220 g. Mild/Hot



**\$2<sup>90</sup>**

**House  
Hashed Beef**  
135 g.



**\$1<sup>55</sup>**

**Bull-Dog  
Sauce**  
500 ml.



**\$3<sup>32</sup>**

## THE BAKE / DELI SHOPPE

*Oven Fresh Bakery*

**Pullman  
Bread**



**\$1<sup>60</sup>**

**Banana Raisin  
Bread**



**\$1<sup>60</sup>**

## PRODUCE



**Onion,  
Yellow US** **47¢**  
/lb.



**Russet  
Potato** **65¢**  
/lb.



**Garlic  
Netted** **\$1<sup>16</sup>**  
/lb.



**Broccoli  
Crown** **\$1<sup>33</sup>**  
/lb.

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# Church CCD raises fund in Shell carwash

The Santa Remedios Church Confraternity of Christian Doctrine ministry, which provides religious education programs to young Catholics, participated in Shell Marianas' Suds for Funds car wash on Apr. 19.

The CCD ministry joined to raise money for sash and certificates to be given to students scheduled to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

"It was fun. We did not make much but it was definitely fun," Tammy Santos, the spokesperson for the group, said.

She said 28 students from different public and private schools living in Tanapag, a village that is part of the Santa Remedios parish, were scheduled to receive Confirmation on a still to be determined date in May or June.

"We are going to use the money that we were able to raise at the Shell Suds for Funds to buy sash, certificates and other needed materials for the Confirmation," Santos said.

Santos said six students participated in the Suds for Funds. She said they plan to hold similar fundraisers as the Confirmation draws near.

The Shell Suds for Funds car wash event is a fundraiser organized by Shell Marianas, Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia) Inc., and Glimpses Advertising for the benefit of non-profit organizations. Glimpses coordinates and publicizes the event; Shell provides the cleaning water, soap, sponges, buckets and tent; Coca-Cola supplies free beverage for participants.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Santa Remedios Church CCD ministry, which prepares young students for Confirmation as part of continuing religious education programs provided by the Catholic Church, participated in Shell Marianas' Suds for Funds carwash on April 19 to raise money for sash and certificates to be given to students scheduled to receive the sacrament. In photo are the students and the CCD mentors doing the carwash.

"We're very grateful to Shell, Coca-Cola and Glimpses for organizing this kind of fundraiser," Santos said.

Shell Marianas, Coca-Cola and Glimpses Advertising have been holding the Shell Suds for Funds car wash event every third Saturday of the month since October 2003. This has benefited approximately 50 different civic and non-profit groups.

A regular Shell Suds for Funds event is held every Saturday at any Shell service station. Interested groups need to coordinate with the station managers, and bring their own refreshment and cleaning supplies except for the water for washing, which is provided by the station.

A special Shell Suds for Funds car wash is held every

third or fourth Saturday of the month where a beneficiary is featured in Beach Road Magazine and provided with cleaning supplies and refreshments by Shell Marianas and Coca-Cola, respectively.

Groups wanting to be the featured Shell Suds for Funds beneficiary may contact Glimpses at 234-6449 and look for Jojo Dass for details. (Shell)

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Going Twice  
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Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market  
Livestock Auction**

**Saturday, April 26, 2008 • 10AM  
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**Live Animals will be sold to the  
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**We invite anyone interested in selling livestock or  
farm animals at auction to call Bill Ada at 483-0150  
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**The list of animals we hope to sell are:**

**Cattle/Calves • Pigs/Piglets • Goats  
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<b>Leg Quarter</b> 22 LBS. <b>\$17<sup>99</sup></b> 33 LBS. <b>\$23<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Whole Chicken</b> LIMIT 1 CASE <b>\$33<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Young Spare Ribs</b> 10 LBS. <b>\$15<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Spare Ribs</b> 20 LBS. <b>\$12<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Diamond G Calrose Rice</b> LIMIT 2 SACKS 50 LBS. <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b>
<b>Beef Spare Ribs</b> 20 LBS. <b>\$17<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Pork Riblets</b> 10 LBS. <b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Whole Horse Mackerel</b> 22 LBS. <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Turkey Tail</b> 20 LBS. <b>\$12<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Jasmine Lotus Rice</b> 50 LBS. <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b>

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<b>Kool-Aid</b> 32 oz. <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Tang</b> 22 qts. <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Nestea Iced Tea</b> 36 qts. <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Spam All Kinds</b> 12 oz. LIMIT 12 <b>\$1<sup>89</sup></b>	<b>Sun Flower Mackerel</b> 15 oz. <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Coco Tuna</b> LIMIT 12 Cans <b>89¢</b>	<b>Beach Cliff Sardines</b> 3.75 oz. <b>79¢</b>
<b>Coffee-Mate Creamer</b> 50 oz. <b>\$6<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Folgers Classic Roast</b> 39 oz. <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Ocean Best Crabmeat Imitation</b> 1 lb. <b>\$2<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>Ox &amp; Palm Corned Beef</b> 11.5 oz. <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Golden State Vinegar</b> 1 Gal. <b>\$2<sup>59</sup></b>	<b>Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup</b> 10.7 oz. <b>89¢</b>	<b>Carnation Evaporated Milk</b> 12 oz. <b>99¢</b>
<b>Ground Beef</b> 5 LBS. <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b> 10 LBS. <b>\$16<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Pike Mackerel Family Bag</b> <b>\$5<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Mackerel Family Bag</b> <b>\$5<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Cream of Mushroom</b> 10 3/4 oz. <b>99¢</b>	<b>DM Beef Stew</b> 15 oz. <b>2 FOR \$3<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>One Whole Chicken</b> 50 oz. <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Ace of Diamonds Tuna</b> LIMIT 12 Cans <b>99¢</b>
<b>Gusto Ham</b> 10 lbs. <b>\$16<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Miller Sausage</b> 5 lbs. <b>\$14<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Chamorro Sausage Reg/Hot</b> 1 lb. <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Black Label Luncheon Meat</b> 12 oz. <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Hormel Vienna Sausage</b> 5 oz. <b>59¢</b>	<b>Hormel Chili No Beans</b> 15 oz. <b>2 FOR \$3<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash</b> 15 oz. <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b>
<b>Bar-S Bacon</b> 1 lb. <b>\$2<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Bar-S Hotdog</b> 1 lb. <b>99¢</b>	<b>Bar-S Ham</b> 10 lbs. <b>\$15<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Real Fresh Milk (Reg. &amp; Low Fat)</b> <b>\$16<sup>99</sup> /CASE</b>	<b>Pickles Vlasic Whole Dill</b> 1 Gal. <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Vlasic Dill Pickles (Spears)</b> 1 Gal. <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Marca El Rey Chorizos</b> 4 lb./64 oz. <b>\$23<sup>99</sup> /CAN</b>
<b>Peeled Shrimp SC Brand</b> 1 lb. <b>\$2<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Seafood Mix Log Feng Brand</b> 1 lb. <b>\$2<sup>59</sup></b>	<b>Blue Crab Section Per Box</b> <b>\$8<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Kikkoman</b> 1.6 L. <b>\$3<sup>79</sup></b>	<b>Lemon Powder</b> 5.29 oz. <b>\$4<sup>95</sup></b>	<b>Vegetable Oil</b> 5 Gal. LIMIT 1 <b>\$29<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Crisco Shortening</b> 3 lbs. <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>
<b>Vega Shrimp</b> 1 lb. <b>\$5<sup>50</sup></b>	<b>Green Mussels</b> 2 lbs. <b>\$4<sup>50</sup></b>	<b>Milk Fish</b> <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>Gold Medal Flour</b> 5 lbs. <b>\$2<sup>59</sup></b>	<b>Sugar</b> 2 kg. <b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b>	<b>Maseca Corn Flour</b> 4.4 lbs. <b>\$3<sup>59</sup></b>	<b>Zee Napkin</b> 360 cnts. <b>\$3<sup>59</sup></b>
<b>Tilapia</b> <b>89¢</b>	<b>U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen</b> <b>\$2<sup>69</sup></b>	<b>Chicken Wings</b> 5.5 lbs. <b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Ichiban</b> LIMIT 2 CASES <b>\$7<sup>99</sup> /CASE</b>	<b>Morton Iodized Salt</b> 26 oz. <b>59¢</b>	<b>Foam Plates</b> 125 ct. <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Bounty Basic</b> 8 Roll <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>
<b>Kraft Cool Whip</b> 8 oz. <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 16 oz. <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Candle Plain White Only</b> <b>\$12<sup>95</sup> /CASE</b>	<b>Horse Shampoo</b> 1 qt. <b>2 FOR \$3<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>Korean Butane Gas</b> LIMIT 1 Case <b>\$18<sup>99</sup> /CASE</b>	<b>Aluminum Foil</b> 200 Sq. Ft. <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Shasta Drinks All Flavors</b> <b>\$8<sup>99</sup> /CASE</b>	<b>Spoon &amp; Fork No Brand Name</b> 100 cnts. <b>99¢</b>
<b>Garlic</b> <b>\$89¢ BUNDLE</b>	<b>Onion</b> <b>\$79¢ PER POUND</b>	<b>Crisco Pure Corn Oil</b> 1 Gal. <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Crisco Veg. Oil</b> <b>1 GAL. \$7<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Philadelphia Cream Cheese</b> <b>\$2<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only</b> <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Enfamil with Iron</b> 8 oz./Case <b>\$36<sup>99</sup></b>

**Coke Regular**  
24/Case Warm Only  
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SUAVE SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER (15 OZ.)	2 FOR \$3.00

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**Budweiser / Budlight**  
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1 Gal.  
**\$8<sup>99</sup>**



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### Proposed Amendment of the Saipan Zoning Law and Official Zoning Map (Rezoning)

We ask your comments on proposed amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law of 2007 and Official Zoning Maps. The proposed amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law affect many parts of the law including: definitions of terms, exemptions and area of jurisdiction, the types of uses permitted in certain areas (zones), standards (requirements) for temporary uses and roadside merchandise stands, standards for certain uses, building design, signs and lighting, lot line adjustments, subdivisions, road standards, and editorial changes. The proposed amendments to the Official Zoning Map (rezoning) are on map sheets 01, 02, 05, 06, 08, 09, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26 and 27.

#### PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE TO EXPLAIN THE PROPOSAL:

**Date:** April 22, 2007  
**Time:** 2:00 pm and repeat at 6:30 pm  
**Place:** Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe

#### PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL:

**Date:** April 29, 2008  
**Time:** 6:30 pm  
**Place:** Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe

The proposed amendments and map changes may be viewed at Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan Joeten-Kiyu Public Library  
Zoning Board website: [www.zoning.gov.mp](http://www.zoning.gov.mp) (publications page)

After the public hearing, the Zoning Board will make a decision on whether to approve any or all of the changes to the Official Zoning Maps. The Board will also decide whether to recommend any or all of the amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law for adoption by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office and they must be received at the Zoning Office by 4:30 pm, April 30, 2008. Send written comments via e-mail to [staff@zoning.gov.mp](mailto:staff@zoning.gov.mp), via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Office at 234-9663. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2007. /s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.

## Business

# Delta and Northwest lose a combined \$10.5 billion

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Delta and Northwest, seeking to combine to create the world's largest airline, posted losses Wednesday totaling \$10.5 billion for the first three months of the year due to exorbitant fuel prices and write-downs of their companies' value.

Southwest's chief executive, meanwhile, indicated that the carrier wasn't interested in a merger and said the very thought of it was daunting.

The figures from Delta and Northwest follow large losses at other carriers, such as United Airlines parent UAL Corp., which earlier this week reported a \$537 million first-quarter loss

on higher fuel costs, and likely rank among the industry's largest quarterly losses ever.

That red ink puts into focus the enormity of the challenge the industry faces to become profitable again amid \$120-a-barrel oil—even with the benefits that consolidation can bring.

"All airlines are in the same boat," said Calyon Securities analyst Ray Neidl. "The industry cannot make money at the current ticket fare levels. Seats have to come out of the market. To cover higher fuel costs, air fares have to go up."

Atlanta-based Delta Air Lines Inc., the nation's third-largest

carrier, said its loss widened in the first quarter to a whopping \$6.39 billion. A few hours later, Eagan, Minn.-based Northwest Airlines Corp. reported a \$4.1 billion loss for the period.

Delta's results badly missed Wall Street expectations, despite a 12 percent increase in sales.

Excluding special items—primarily a \$6.1 billion non-cash charge relating to the drop in Delta's market value due to sustained record fuel prices—the airline lost \$274 million in the first quarter. A spokeswoman said Delta would have recorded the charge regardless of the tie-up with Northwest.

## Stocks rise as Street parses earnings

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Wall Street ended a choppy session with a moderate advance Wednesday after a better-than-expected profit report at Boeing Co. and a seesaw day in the energy markets.

Boeing, one of the 30 stocks that comprise the Dow Jones industrial average, reported a 38 percent jump in first-quarter earnings. The airplane manufacturer's results, along with stron-

ger-than-anticipated forecasts at chip makers Broadcom Corp. and Anadigics Inc., appeared to buoy investor sentiment about the first-quarter earnings season.

Investors also reacted positively to Liberty Mutual's plans to acquire another insurance company, Safeco. The \$6.12 billion deal—which would create the country's fifth-biggest property insurer—sent Safeco shares surging \$20.71, or 46

percent, to \$65.94.

Still, the stock market's movements were somewhat erratic Wednesday, as investors concerned about inflation kept an eye on fluctuating oil prices. Oil initially pulled back but then rebounded again, as the government reported a rise in crude inventories but a drop in gasoline stockpiles. A day earlier, a record high price for oil had helped send shares skidding.

## Energy futures rise, fuel supply drops

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Gasoline prices shot higher at the pump Wednesday, rising more than 2 cents overnight to a national average of \$3.53 a gallon. Oil prices also rose and gas reached new records in the futures market after an Energy Department report raised new questions about

fuel supplies.

Gasoline inventories fell by 3.2 million barrels last week, about a million barrels more than expected, the EIA said. Gas supplies have been falling lately, raising concerns about fuel supply levels as peak summer driving season approaches.

"It's just a sense that sum-

mer driving's here," and supplies are falling, said Phil Flynn, an analyst at Alaron Trading Corp. in Chicago.

That pointed to a continuation of gasoline's prolonged climb at filling stations around the country.

The national average price of a gallon of regular gas rose 2.2 cents Wednesday to a new record of \$3.533, according to a survey of stations by AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. Diesel, the fuel used by trucks, trains and ships, rose to its own new record of \$4.214 a gallon.

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### The CNMI Head Start Program is pleased to announce Open Registration for School year 2008-2009

#### REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

**Only parents or legal guardians are authorized to register their child(ren).**

- ☐ Child(ren) birth certificate.
- ☐ Head Start Program Forms 3, 4 & 5 (copies can be obtained at the Head Start Office)
- ☐ Social Security Card
- ☐ School Health Entrance Certificate and medical insurance (if any).
- ☐ Parent's/Guardian's verification of income (2 of your most current check stubs or other public assistance, such as Medicaid, WIC or Nutrition Assistance).
- ☐ Passport/Visa/Immigration Permit (for non-residents)
- ☐ Legal Guardians must provide notarized documents stipulating the guardianship of child(ren).
- ☐ **Parents of children with disabilities are required to bring their child(ren) current IEP or IFSP.**

**Please be advised that the Head Start Program is a Federally Funded program that has Eligibility and Selection Criteria's. Registering your child does not guarantee automatic enrollment. The program currently enrolls between the ages of 3-5 years old.**

**Children cannot be accepted into the program prior to their 3rd birthday.**

#### For more information:

Please visit office at any Head Start Center near you  
#1256 Pohnpei Way, Capitol Hill, Saipan

**664-3751 or 323-7446**



# Learn how to adapt to a changing job market

By LILY GARCIA  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

## A reader writes:

"I have been looking for a job for over one month. When I was younger, I could land a job after the first interview. However, at 57 years old, I am now hardly able to even get one."

"I am a certified dental assistant and have been in the field for over 30 years. I truly enjoy the work, but it has limited me as far as doing any other type of job. I have a bottom line in the salary amount that I will accept

and can't afford to start over at a lower one."

"What can I do to promote myself? I am a good worker and am much more dedicated than many of my younger counterparts. What should I do?"

The response:

Just as you have changed over the past 30 years, the job market for your position has probably done the same. The "buzz" about dental assistant careers suggests that they are plentiful and pay relatively well. And as you might expect, this has led to an influx of job seekers and intensified the competition. If

your bottom line is higher than the going rate, however, you do run the risk of being eliminated for that reason alone.

Before you proceed any further, determine how low you are able to go. If you have any flexibility in your bottom line number, that will help you tremendously. You should also work on the presentation of your application materials and your interview style. The cover letter should express your personal qualities that aren't necessarily obvious from a chronological review of your work history. Discuss your passion for the field, experience, dedication and work ethic. It's important to relay to potential employers that, although hiring you may cost them more, they will be getting

a far better value than with a less seasoned employee.

At interview time, formulate answers and questions that showcase these qualities. Think of several key points, in advance, that you want to convey about your potential value to the practice. Rehearse what you are going to say, either with a friend or in front of a mirror. Then, make sure that you subtly work these statements into your responses. Also, don't forget to come to the interview prepared with a list of professional references who will sing your praise.

Remember, you have only been looking for a job for one month. That may seem like an eternity when you are enduring rejection, but finding a job—especially the right job—can

take much longer. And once you've secured employment and made yourself indispensable to the new employer, you will then be in a better position to negotiate for higher pay.



## Life after teaching

By MARY ELLEN SLAYTER  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

**Q. I am looking to leave my job as a special education teacher. What kinds of careers have teachers gotten into after teaching? My concern is that I may not make the same money. What can I do?**

**A:** Your teaching skills are highly transferable. For ideas, log onto a job-search site and input keywords such as "training," "teaching" and "instructing" to get an idea of the thousands of positions that could use your skills. To hone down your choices, think about which products or services are interesting to you, and then research which roles within those industries would allow you to use the skills you most enjoy. While teaching pays well, there are many other career choices that can pay as well or better.

■ ■ ■

**Q. Career switching sounds great, but practically, I wouldn't hire me. I read interesting ads, think about how I could spin my experience to show I'm a quick learner, but the truth is, I don't have the experience they want, and I wouldn't blame them for choosing someone who does. How can a (shy) person ever get past the gatekeepers?**

**A:** It sounds as if you're your most challenging "gatekeeper." It would probably help for you to build your confidence/track record in the career areas that interest you by finding small ways to add to your experience base, so that you can then say, "Yes, Ms. Employer, I do have experience with that. Let me give you an example ..."

When you see an ad that looks appealing and you think, "Yes, I could probably do that," actually find a way to do it — complete a practice project, volunteer for an activity, take a class, etc. This technique helps you build your resume while improving your chances of convincing employers of your ability to succeed in a new line of work.

## Not too old for homework

By MARY ELLEN SLAYTER  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

How well are you preparing for job interviews? If you're relying mainly on your well-polished shoes and sparkling wit to impress potential employers, you could be losing out. Instead, take some time to research the company before your meeting. Asking questions that are tailored to an employer's specific needs will make you stand out from other candidates. Good sources of information include the company's Web site, former employees — even their SEC filings.

■ ■ ■

Looking for a new career? Maybe Uncle Sam can help. Check out the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook. Learn more about the training and education needed to enter a particular field, likely earnings, working conditions and long-term prospects. The information is unbiased, and it's updated every two years.

■ ■ ■

It's often said that looking for a new job is practically a full-time job itself. No wonder then that our job search activities often creep into our workday, with three-quarters of workers telling Accountemps that they are comfortable looking for a new job while on the job. After all, that's when the people who would hire us are also at work and can take our phone calls.

But that doesn't mean you should advertise your intentions to jump ship. A few tips for maintaining professionalism as you search: Use your cell phone to take and receive job-search calls. Create a professional-sounding personal e-mail address to send out resumes. And make sure your job is still getting done, even if it means staying late to make up for the lost time.



# I gotta lotta cases?

## Buy 'em to win!

Buy a case of Foremost UHT Milk & enter to win sparkling new kitchen appliances!



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**Winner Announcement: May 16, 2008**

Rice Cooker, Microwave Oven, Bread Toaster, Blender, Pressure Cooker, Cookware Set, Barbecue Grill and Convection Oven with Rotisserie

\*Winner's names will be pulled at the Coke-Foremost office.

**BABY GRAND PRIZE**

**Winner Announcement: June 7, 2008**

Rice Cooker, Microwave Oven, Bread Toaster, Blender, Food Processor, Pressure Cooker, Cookware Set, Barbecue Grill, Dinnerware Set, Convection Oven with Rotisserie and Waffle Maker

**GRAND PRIZE**

**Winner Announcement: July 12, 2008**

7.5 cu. ft. Refrigerator, Rice Cooker, Microwave Oven, Bread Toaster, Blender, Food Processor, Pressure Cooker, Cookware Set, Barbecue Grill, Dinnerware Set, Convection Oven with Rotisserie, and Waffle Maker

**Promotional Dates: April 16 through July 5, 2008**

**1** Purchase a 12-pack case of Foremost (1 Qt.) UHT Milk or Reduced Fat Milk.

**2** Fill out the entry form & drop it into the drop box.

**3** Enter to win shiny new appliances!



Packed with local pride.

The more cases you buy, the more chances you have to win!



# Nation

## Petraeus promotion keeps US on war course

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush is promoting his top Iraq commander, Army Gen. David Petraeus, and replacing him with the general's recent deputy, keeping the U.S. on its war course and handing the next president a pair of combat-tested commanders who have relentlessly defended Bush's strategies.

Bush will nominate Petraeus to replace Navy Adm. William J. Fallon as chief of U.S. Central

Command, Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced Wednesday. The command's area of responsibility features some of the most vexing military and foreign policy problems facing this administration and its successor—including Iran, Pakistan, Lebanon, parts of Africa and Afghanistan in ad-



Petraeus

dition to Iraq. Fallon resigned last month, saying news reports that he was at odds with the White House over Iran policy had become a distraction. He was the first Navy officer to lead Central Command; the Petraeus choice represents a return to the more common practice of making it

an Army slot.

Petraeus would be succeeded at a pivotal time in Baghdad by Army Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno, who was the No. 2 commander in Iraq for 15 months. He has been credited by many with deftly managing security gains that Petraeus told Congress this month have opened a pathway for potential political progress in the country.

Gates said he hoped the Senate would act on both nomina-

tions by next month and expected Petraeus to switch to the Central Command job, which is based in Tampa, Fla., by late summer or early fall.

That is the point at which Petraeus is likely to make an initial recommendation to Gates and to Bush on whether conditions in Iraq are stable enough to permit a further reduction in U.S. troop levels.

The United States has about 160,000 troops in Iraq and

about 28,000 in Afghanistan. The strain of those wars has taken a heavy toll on U.S. ground forces.

Among the politically sensitive questions Petraeus would face as head of Central Command is whether the military focus on Iraq is limiting what U.S. and allied forces can accomplish in Afghanistan. And he would be pressed on the matter of using military force against Iran.

## Clinton's donations surge after Penn. victory

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton parlayed her campaign-saving primary victory into a fundraising bonanza Wednesday in the Democratic presidential race. Rival Barack Obama, his delegate lead intact, said, "We just keep on plugging away."

One day after Clinton's comfortable win in Pennsylvania, she and Obama looked ahead to contests on May 6 in Indiana and North Carolina and offered sharply contrasting assessments of the race to date.

"The big win that I had, the broad base of coalition that I put together, is exactly what we're going to need to have in the fall," the former first lady said, arguing that her Pennsylvania victory showed she was more electable than her rival. "And in fact that's what I've done, in big states, in swing states," since the campaign began, she told CBS.

Obama disputed that, saying he had defeated Clinton in prima-



Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., speaks as a supporter holds a sign at a rally in Indianapolis Wednesday, April 23, 2008.

ries or caucuses in several general election battleground states and would "have a much better chance of winning" them in the

fall. He mentioned Virginia, Colorado, Wisconsin and Iowa.

He also countered Clinton's suggestions that he's not tough

enough to shoulder the presidency. "You know, I've always believed that if you're tough, you don't have to talk about it," he said.

## Pine beetle outbreaks turn forests into carbon source

DENVER (AP)—An outbreak of mountain pine beetles in British Columbia is doing more than destroying millions of trees: By 2020, the beetles will have done so much damage that the forest is expected to release more carbon dioxide than it absorbs, according to new research.

The study, led by Werner Kurz of the Canadian Forest Service, estimates that over 21 years trees killed by the beetle outbreak could release 990 megatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere—roughly equivalent to five years of emissions from Canada's transportation sector.

The outbreak has affected about 33 million acres, or about 51,562 square miles, of lodgepole pines. Bark beetles also have killed huge swaths of pines in the western United States, including about 2,300 square miles of trees in Colorado.

"When trees are killed, they

no longer are able to take carbon from the atmosphere. Then when dead trees start to decompose, that releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere," Kurz said.

That could exacerbate global warming that contributed to the outbreaks in the first place. Warmer temperatures have allowed beetles to survive farther north and at higher elevations.

"This is the kind of feedback we're all very worried about in the carbon cycle—a warming planet leading to, in this case, an insect outbreak that increases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, which can increase warming," said Andy Jacobson, a carbon cycle scientist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Boulder, Colo.

Boreal forests in Canada generally have been steady "carbon sinks," absorbing more carbon dioxide than they emit.

## Phone number in Texas abuse report linked to Colo. woman

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—A phone number used to report alleged abuse at a polygamist retreat in Texas has been linked to a woman suspected of making false abuse claims in Colorado, according to an affidavit made public Wednesday.

It's not yet clear whether authorities suspect Rozita Swinton, 33, of Colorado Springs, made the calls that triggered an April 3 raid of the compound. The arrest warrant affidavit released Wednesday says that several calls alleging abuse there were made using several phone numbers, including the number linked to Swinton.

The more than 400 children found at the retreat in Eldorado are now in state custody. Texas officials and lawyers have said that even if the call that prompted the raid turned out to be a hoax it would not affect their custody case because the state acted in good faith.



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**ACROSS THE NATION****Marketing of boot camps under congressional scrutiny**

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Youth boot camps and their referral services are using deceptive marketing practices when trying to convince parents of troubled kids to try the programs, a federal investigation has found. The programs - also referred to as residential treatment facilities, behavior modification programs or therapeutic boarding schools - have been under congressional investigation for about a year. It's estimated that at least 20,000 U.S. teens attend such facilities. As part of the federal review, investigators at the Government Accountability Office made undercover calls to boot camps and referral services that work with them. Youth residential treatment programs are typically loosely regulated by states. There are no federal laws that define and regulate them. Rep. George Miller, D-Calif, is trying to change that.

**Air Force says 2 killed in training jet crash in Miss.**

**COLUMBUS, Miss. (AP)**—An Air Force training jet crashed at Columbus Air Force Base on Wednesday, killing both pilots aboard, base officials said. The base said in a news release that the T-38C Talon crashed about 12:30 p.m., and that the pilots' names were being withheld until relatives could be notified. A base official said no other information would be made available until another news release is issued Thursday afternoon. WCBI-TV in Columbus reported that witnesses saw a large plume of smoke coming from the base. The runways were closed and some other Air Force planes were diverted to nearby Golden Triangle Regional Airport, which usually handles commercial flights. Three other aircraft from the base have crashed since January 2007, but no one was killed in those crashes. Two T-6 Texan II primary trainers, which are propeller driver aircraft, collided and crashed in November during training flights over rural east Mississippi, but all on board parachuted to safety.

**Ex-prosecutor: New arrest shows reach of 1980s spy ring**

**NEW YORK (AP)**—New charges that an Army veteran passed military secrets to the same Israeli handler as convicted spy Jonathan Pollard confirms the espionage ring reached further than initially thought, and that the Israelis lied about it, a former prosecutor said Wednesday. "The similarities are quite eerie," said Joseph E. diGenova, who as U.S. attorney in the District of Columbia oversaw the 1980s-era Pentagon spy scandal that ensnared Pollard, an ex-Navy analyst serving a life sentence for revealing defense secrets

to Israel. A criminal complaint filed Tuesday in Manhattan federal court "clearly indicates there were other Americans being asked at other military installations to do the same things the same way," diGenova said. "This was a much larger espionage operation ... than we understood or could have known at the time."

**Hawaii volcano forces park evacuation for 2nd time in month**

**VOLCANO, Hawaii (AP)**—Elevated levels of sulfur dioxide pouring from Kilauea volcano Wednesday forced the evacuation of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park for the second time this month. About 2,000 people were forced to leave the park when a lack of wind kept the noxious gas from Halemaumau Crater lingering over the Big Island volcano, park spokeswoman Mardie Lane said. "Right now we have little to no wind," Lane said. The plume from the volcano's main crater was lingering over the area rather than getting blown away by trade winds the way it had been earlier in the week. "When you step outside, definitely your eyes tear, you have that feeling that you'd like to cough or clear your throat," Lane said. A rare two-day park closure earlier this month was caused by a shift in wind direction that prevented the gas from being blown out to sea.

**Informant says 3 accused in terror plot had little contact**

**TOLEDO, Ohio (AP)**—Three men accused of plotting to recruit and train terrorists to attack U.S. and allied troops met only once during the two years an undercover informant investigated them, the informant testified Wednesday. The informant, Darren Griffin, is the key witness in the case against Mohammad Amawi, Marwan El-Hindi and Wassim Mazloum, who are charged with conspiring to kill or maim people outside the United States. Griffin, who spent 14 years in the Army before going to work for the FBI, gained the trust of the three by posing as a former soldier who had grown disenchanted with U.S. foreign policy and converted to the Muslim faith. He met with them at a mosque.

**Transit official: WTC hub costs \$3B without design changes**

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The head of the federal agency paying to build a transit hub at the World Trade Center site said Wednesday the project now costs about \$3 billion, more than \$500 million over its latest budget. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which owns the site, has sought for more than a year to cut costs for the winged-dome design for a PATH commuter rail hub at ground zero. Officials said in early 2007 that Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava's design

for the lower Manhattan hub would be modified but they have never released a new design. Construction began in 2005. The project is primarily funded by a \$1.9 billion grant from the Federal Transit Administration, which supports locally planned and operated mass transit systems. A consultant's report for the agency earlier this year concluded that the project as designed has almost no chance of being built for its \$2.2 billion budget.

**US to pursue third trial in alleged Sears Tower plot**

**MIAMI (AP)**—Federal prosecutors


stung twice by deadlocked juries said Wednesday they would make a third attempt to convict six men accused of scheming with al-Qaida to topple Chicago's Sears Tower and bomb FBI offices in several cities. The decision was announced at a hearing by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Gregorie, who also said most of the defendants soon will be able to post bail for the first time since their highly publicized June 2006 arrests. U.S. District Judge Joan Lenard declared a mistrial last week in the second trial because jurors could not agree on any verdicts. The first trial in the "Liberty City

Seven" case ended the same way in December, except that a seventh defendant was acquitted.


**Chicago's violent spring continues, with 5 found dead**

**CHICAGO (AP)**—Authorities found the bodies of five young people Wednesday inside a ransacked house on Chicago's South Side, raising the body count in an already violent spring, police said. It appeared the three men and two women had been shot, but investigators were waiting for the Cook County medical examiner's office to confirm a cause of death, said Chief of Detectives


Thomas Byrne. Autopsies were scheduled for Thursday, the medical examiner's office said. "This is very serious," Byrne said at a news conference near the two-story house. "There's five victims. There's five families right now that are grieving over this." All the victims were in their 20s, and they all knew each other, said Deputy Chief Eugene Williams. There were signs of forced entry into the house, which appeared to have been ransacked, Williams said. A woman visiting the house found the bodies Wednesday afternoon, police spokeswoman Monique Bond said.




**26th April, 2008 – Saturday**  
**CNMI National Women Team**  
**VS**  
**Guam National Women Team**  
**Kick Off time : 3.00pm**

  
**27th April, 2008- Sunday**  
**CNMI National Men Team**  
**VS**  
**Guam National Men Team**  
**Kick off time: 3.00pm**

**CIVIC CENTER FIELD (ADA FIELD)**  
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 Address: PMB 338, P.O.Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950





# Asia

## At least 90 said killed in Sri Lanka battle

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Tamil rebels and Sri Lankan troops fought one of their fiercest battles in years Wednesday, battering each other with small arms and mortars in a confrontation that the military said killed 52 guerrillas and 38 soldiers.

The rebels claimed they killed more than 100 soldiers and lost only 16 of their fighters in a 10-hour firefight they characterized as a rout of the heavily armed government forces.

Either way, the battle was

a serious blow to the government's promise to capture the Tamil Tigers' de facto state in the north, crush the rebel group and end the 25-year-old civil war in this Indian Ocean island nation by the end of the year.

As with most battles, the two sides gave very different accounts.

The military said fighting broke out just before dawn when rebel forces overran government positions in the rugged Muhamalai region of the Jaffna peninsula, north

of rebel-held territory

Government troops fought back with small arms, mortars and tanks, eventually driving off the assault and launching a counteroffensive that pushed 500 yards into Tamil Tiger territory, the military spokesman, Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara, said.

Soon after the ground fighting, air force jets and helicopters destroyed two rebel artillery positions and hit rebel bunkers in the area, the military said in a statement.

Nanayakkara said 38 government soldiers died and 84 suffered wounds. The toll was the worst suffered by the military since the government pulled out of a tattered ceasefire with the rebels in January and stepped up its attacks.

Rebel spokesman Rasiah Ilanthirayan accused the military of sparking the battle. "They attempted to get near our positions. That's when the clashes erupted," he told The Associated Press.

## China's Everest torch plan draw journalists' concerns

BEIJING (AP)—China's new plan for press coverage of the Olympic torch's ascent of Mount Everest has touched off a new controversy.

Health experts and media groups said Wednesday the plan will expose reporters to undue health risks due to the altitude.

It also underscores Beijing's worries about reporting in Tibet and adds another sour note to what Beijing hoped would be a grand feat—taking the torch up the world's tallest peak. Like the entire torch relay, the event has become more contentious after last month's protests of Chinese rule in Tibet, where Everest stands.

Under the new schedule introduced by Beijing Olympic officials Tuesday, reporters' time in Tibet would be halved, to about 10 days, most of it in

transit. The trip from Beijing, just above sea level, to the Everest base camp at 16,800 feet would be compressed to three days—a third of the adjusting time experts recommend to ward off the sometimes fatal effects of sudden exposure to low oxygen levels at high altitude.

"To take a week or two, it's acceptable, and to take three days, it's ridiculous," said Dr. Robert Schoene, a mountaineer and expert on altitude sickness at University of California-San Diego. "If you take low-landers who are healthy, almost everybody, at least 80 to 90 percent, would get acute mountain sickness in three days."

The plan drew complaints from most of the nine foreign media organizations invited to Everest, including The Associated Press.

## Suicide bombings, attacks in Afghanistan kill 13, hurt 24

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—A spate of suicide bombings and other attacks on security forces in southern Afghanistan Wednesday left 13 people dead and 24 others wounded, officials said.

In Kandahar province, a suicide bomber blew himself up next to a vehicle carrying intelligence agents in the border town of Spin Boldak, killing three civilians, Kandahar Gov. Assadullah Khalid said.

Two children and three intelligence agents were among the 14 hurt, Khalid said.

Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi said the insurgent group was behind the attack and identified the bomber as a man named Gul Mohammad.

A 16-year-old boy who was wounded in the explosion said police shot at the bomber before

he detonated explosives.

"Police opened fire at the man after he ran toward a group of civilians. He then threw his shawl and then there was a big explosion," said Rehmat Ullah.

In neighboring Helmand province, a suicide bomber struck a police convoy, killing two officers and wounding three, said district police chief Khairudin Shuhja. Shuhja was in the convoy but was not injured in the attack.

As the bomber approached the car, guards opened fire, wounding the attacker, who then blew himself up, Shuhja said.

Southern Afghanistan is the center of the Taliban-led insurgency. Militants regularly use suicide attacks in their fight against Afghan and foreign troops in the country, but most victims are civilians.

## RP police probe fatal shootout

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police officers trying to stop alleged robbers opened fire at a busy bridge in the Philippine capital in a shootout that left seven people dead, including two bystanders in a car, officials said Thursday.

Police said the shootout on Wednesday, one of the bloodiest in Manila in recent years, erupted after the gunmen fired at officers who tried to stop their van at a police checkpoint near the bridge.

Manila police chief Roberto Rosales first reported that four suspected robbery gang members were killed on the spot and three others died in the hospital.

However, Metropolitan Manila police chief Geary Barias said Thursday he was informed that two civilians


were among those killed and ordered an investigation.

"I knew nothing about it when I inspected the scene of the incident," Barias told Radio DZRH.

He said he wants to know if police committed any lapses in judgment. He said it was not clear if it was police or the gunmen who shot at the bystanders.

The two men, including a manager at a local brewery, were inside their car when the gunmen allegedly tried to commandeer it in the middle of the shootout with police. The two bystanders got out when they were hit by bullets, police said.


Another police officer, Superintendent Mario Espino, said the suspects, believed to have carried out earlier robberies, were allegedly on the way to strike again when they were intercepted.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**NORTHERN MARIANAS**

**HOUSING CORPORATION**



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## PUBLIC NOTICE


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Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that a Special Meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, April 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- III. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAMS**
  - a. RURAL DEVELOPMENT
  - b. BANK OF HAWAII LOANS
- IV. FISCAL AFFAIRS**
  - a. 2009 BUDGET
  - b. CDA – SUGAR KING PROPERTIES
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VII. OTHER MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)*


/s/  
**MANUEL A. SABLAN**  
Chairman of the Board



UNITED STATES  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

**COUNCIL on DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

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Website: www.cnmddcouncil.org



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

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**2008 Second Quarterly Council Board of Director's Meeting**

When : May 2, 2008  
Where : Hyatt Regency Saipan  
Time : 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### AGENDA

**Mr. John Arriola, presiding:**

- I. Preliminary matters**
  1. Call to order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Establish Quorum
  4. Adoption of Agenda
  5. Adoption of Minutes (1st quarterly meeting)
  6. Introduction of Guest(s)
- II. Old business**
  1. Adoption of Call-A-Ride "Riders Guide"
  2. Adoption of Internal Control Policies
  3. Committee Membership Assignments
- III. New business**
  1. 2008 FSC Mini Conference
  2. 2008 Assistive Technology Fair/Expo
- IV. Reports**
  1. Executive Director
  2. Chairperson, Council Membership Review Committee
  3. Chairperson, Finance Committee
  4. Chairperson, State Plan Committee
- V. Other Matters**
- VI. Next Council Meeting Schedule**  
July 25, 2008
- VII. Adjournment**

Approved by: /s/ John Arriola, Council Chairperson

*Commonwealth Government Employees' Credit Union*

PO Box 500135, Saipan MP 96950

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

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Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez through the Commonwealth Government Employees' Credit Union Board of Directors (BOARD) hereby gives notice that the BOARD has scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, April 29, 2008, at 1:30 pm at the Credit Union Office in Capitol Hill, Saipan. The following agenda will be discussed:

- I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call
  - C. Adoption of Agenda
  - D. Adoption of Minutes  
February 5, 2008
- II. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**
  - A. Collection Status
  - B. Financial Report-Monthly
  - C. Operational Matters
- III. OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. Audit Status
  - B. SCU
- IV. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. Election of Officers
- V. MISCELLANEOUS**
- VI. ADJOURNMENT**

/s/ **Frances A. Castro**  
Secretary



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# Fraud costs military health program \$100 million-plus

**MADISON, Wis. (AP)**—The U.S. military's health insurance program has been swindled out of more than \$100 million over the past decade in the Philippines, where doctors, hospitals and clinics have conspired with American veterans to submit bogus claims, according to prosecutors and court records.

Seventeen people have been convicted so far—including at least a dozen U.S. military retirees—in a little-noticed investigation that has been handled by federal prosecutors out of Wisconsin because a Madison company holds the contract to process many of the claims. It has not been accused of any wrongdoing.

At the center of the case is Tricare, a Pentagon-run program that insures 9.2 million current and former service members and dependents worldwide. The United States closed its military bases in the Philippines in 1992 and withdrew its active-duty forces, but thousands of retirees remained. Some saw an opportunity to pry easy cash from Tricare.

Health care providers in the Philippines filed claims for medical services never delivered, inflated claims by as much as 2,000 percent and shared kickbacks with retirees who played

along, court records reviewed by The Associated Press show.

"There just seemed to be so many possibilities for abuse of the system, and there were so few controls in terms of monitoring," said former U.S. Attorney Peg Lautenschlager, who oversaw prosecutions in the late 1990s.

Pentagon auditors say Tricare moved slowly to uncover and stop the fraud. And a February audit warned that the program is still vulnerable to rip-offs because of lax controls and that similar fraud schemes are starting to emerge in Latin America.

News of the scope of the fraud comes as the Pentagon seeks to raise fees for Tricare's beneficiaries—fourfold, in some cases. The proposed increases have outraged groups representing servicemen and have been blocked by Congress.

Tricare paid \$210.9 million in overseas claims in 2006, the latest year for which figures were available. At the height of the fraud in 2003, Pentagon officials say, two-thirds of the \$61.8 million paid to Philippine providers—about \$40 million—was fraudulent.

The fraud in the Philippines was so extensive that the number of claims filed there sky-

rocketed nearly 2,000 percent between 1998 and 2003 even as beneficiaries there—about 9,000 mostly retired military members and dependents—remained constant.

"I know this is illegal and wrong to submit fraudulent claims to get money, but I did it for fun," U.S. Navy retiree Romulo Estoesta told investigators. He died in 2002.

Austin Camacho, a spokesman for the Pentagon's Tricare Management Activity, which runs the program, said the fraud has been hard to prove because of language barriers, a lack of cooperation from providers and limited law enforcement resources. But he said the agency added numerous controls and is making every effort to stop fraud.

In one big case, prosecutors say Health Visions Corp.—which owns hospitals and clinics in the Philippines—bilked the program out of nearly \$100 million from 1998 to 2004.

Its former president, Thomas Lutz, has pleaded guilty to his role in a kickback scheme and could get five years in prison. He could be sentenced in Madison as early as Thursday. The company has also reached a plea agreement, but it is sealed.



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### ADDENDUM NO.4 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-07-015

#### Grid Supply Renewable Electricity Generation Projects for CNMI

**Date: Thursday, April 17, 2008**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is hereby notifying all interested proposers/ firms / agencies of the following revisions:

- 1. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CANCELLED.**  
CUC has withdrawn this requirement to allow for wider participation in the interest of the CUC consumers and the CNMI community and to obtain the most responsive and competitive proposals.
- 2. QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS FROM PROPOSERS - Time Extended to Wednesday, April 30, 2008.**
- 3. FINAL RESPONSE TO ALL QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS BY CUC – By Tuesday, May 6, 2008.**
- 4. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION BY PROPOSERS – EXTENDED.** One (1) original and seven (7) copies to be submitted by Friday, May 16, 2008 no later than 3:00 p.m. (Saipan Time) in a sealed envelope and addressed to the CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Procurement Division, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, Tel. 1 (670) 235 7025 – 7032 and Fax. 1 (670) 235 5138. For proposers who are based outside of CNMI, the submission shall be postmarked on the same date as the closing day for submission of the proposals and received within 7 working days (no later than May 28, 2008).

**ANTHONY C. GUERRERO**  
Executive Director



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### INVITATION FOR BIDS COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION CUC-IFB08-003

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, is soliciting sealed bids for the **REHABILITATION OF THE EXISTING SLOW SAND FILTERS PROJECT** in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Sealed bids shall be identified on outside of the envelope by Invitation for Bids No. CUC-IFB008-003. Bids in six sets (including original) will be accepted at the Procurement and Supply Office, CUC, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan until 2:00 P.M., on, May 23, 2008, at which time and place will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury.

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval from the USEPA.

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a U.S. Treasury listed company. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

**The project consists, in general, of the rehabilitation of the existing slow sand filters, related plumbing, installation of qualitative measurement devices such as Turbidity Meters, Residual Chlorine Meter, related small pumps, electrical controls, and a new control room to house the metering devices adjacent to the Saipan International Airport, Saipan CNMI.**

A non-refundable payment of \$300.00 is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after April 25, 2008 at the Water Division Office, CUC, Saipan. A pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 A.M., on May 9, 2008, at the CUC Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit is scheduled following the pre-bid meeting.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

All inquiries should be directed to **Manuel B. Sablan, Procurement & Supply Manager at telephone number (670) 235-7025 thru 7032 Ext. 111/134** or Larry Manacop Water Division Engineer at extension 155.

**ANTHONY C. GUERRERO**  
Executive Director



### INVITATION TO BIDS WATER TASK FORCE ITB08-GOV-058



Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the **AS MATUIS WATER WELL INTERCONNECTION AND WATER LINE PROJECT** in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond. If a bid bond is submitted, it must be accompanied by an Insurers Clearance Certificate (ICC) issued by the Department of Commerce.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds with an ICC clearance. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- 7,700 feet of water main and appurtenances
- Interconnection of six water wells to the As Matuis water system.
- Installation of a PRV/PSV and Check Valve Station.
- Connection to the existing water distribution system.
- Construction of One (1) Booster Stations and sump.
- Construction of one access road.

A non-refundable payment of \$150 is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after April 21, 2008 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at **10:00 a.m., on May 7, 2008**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit is not scheduled following the pre-bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to **Pedro Sasamoto**, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or fax to (670) 664-2279, no later than **May 6, 2008**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Preference is available to U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the BID if preference is claimed.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB08-GOV-058"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 19, 2008**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 19, 2008**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 19, 2008, and must be received no later than **May 29, 2008**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 2:00 pm local time, **May 30, 2008**. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 2:00 pm local time on **May 20, 2008**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ Timothy P. Villagomez  
Lieutenant Governor and Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan  
Director, Procurement and Supply



World

Olympic torch in Australia runs unimpeded

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Runners bearing the Olympic torch completed a 10-mile relay through the Australian capital Thursday, cheered by thousands waving Chinese flags and unimpeded by pockets of pro-Tibet protests that led to several arrests.

Crowds lined downtown streets for the Canberra relay on the cool and sunny autumn day as police manned crowd-control barriers, making good on a vow that nothing would stop the

torch from finishing its journey.

The event began without major incident as a half-dozen officers—in jogging pants, T-shirts and baseball caps—formed a loose cordon around the runner. Overhead, an airplane sky writer wrote the words “Free Tibet” in white letters.

A momentary scare came an hour into the relay when a man leaped out from the crowd and sat cross-legged about 35 feet in front of the runner. Police quickly hauled him away and

the runner didn’t stop.

It was the closest any protester came to the torch, which was carried through Canberra’s wide tree-lined boulevards by 80 runners.

Nearly three hours after the start, five-time gold medal winner Ian Thorpe completed the final leg by lighting a ceremonial cauldron.

Officials claimed a victory because it largely avoided the chaotic protest scenes that marred the portions held in Europe and the United States.

“We obviously feared the worst,” local government spokesman Jeremy Lasek said. “We feel right now relieved but elated - we think we’ve pulled it off.”

Protests of China’s human rights record and its crackdown on anti-government activists in Tibet have turned the relay into a contentious issue for the Olympic movement. Many countries have changed routes and boosted security along the flame’s six-continent journey to the Aug. 8-24 games in Beijing. Officials estimated more than 10,000 people—mostly China supporters—attended the relay route and parks in Canberra.

US, Britain, France protest Libya’s comment on Nazi

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Diplomats from the United States, Britain and France have walked out of a U.N. Security Council meeting after Libya compared the situation in Gaza to Nazi concentration camps.

Wednesday’s walkout was a rare protest by members of the U.N.’s most powerful body against one of their own members.

It came when Libya’s deputy ambassador made the comment during a closed council discussion of the possibility of issuing a press statement on recent Mideast events.

Britain’s deputy U.N. ambassador Karen Pierce says a number of council members were dismayed by Libya’s approach “and do not believe that such language helps advance the peace process.”

US deputy commander calls on al-Sadr to stop assaults

BAGHDAD (AP)—A top American general urged radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr on Wednesday to rein in his fighters as a U.S. soldier was killed during a gunbattle in a militia stronghold in Baghdad.

Two bombings also struck the northern city of Mosul within 30 minutes, killing four people and wounding 12 amid concerns that al-Qaida in Iraq is regrouping.

The U.S. soldier died from a bullet wound in a clash in New Baghdad, a stronghold of al-Sadr’s Mahdi Army militia in an eastern section of the capital, according to Lt. Col. Steve Stover, a military spokesman.

A rocket also slammed into a closed school as teenagers were playing soccer outside, killing two

youths and wounding three amid sporadic fighting in the sprawling Sadr City district, a predominantly Shiite area of Baghdad that is home to 2.5 million people.

Fighting that began a month ago in response to an Iraqi government crackdown on militia violence has put a severe strain on a cease-fire called in late August by al-Sadr. The anti-U.S. cleric threatened this weekend to unleash his militia in “open war” if the operations persist.

Despite heightened rhetoric by al-Sadr and his followers, U.S. commanders have been careful not to directly link the cleric to the fighting, instead blaming Iranian-backed Shiite fighters who have broken with his movement.

Somali pirates find booming business

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—For years, Somali pirates have found lucrative work stalking the country’s lawless coast, seizing boats and negotiating ransoms. But these brazen assailants could soon face more force as the United States and France muster international support for taking them on.

“This is a very important and serious signal that the nations of the world take (piracy) seriously,” said Cmdr. Lydia Robertson, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Navy.

The United States has been leading international patrols to combat piracy along Somalia’s unruly 1,880-mile coast, the longest in Africa and near key shipping routes. Now, the U.S. and France are drafting a U.N. resolution that would allow coun-

tries to chase and arrest pirates after a spate of recent attacks, including a Spanish tuna boat hijacked this week by pirates firing rocket-propelled grenades and a Dubai-flagged cargo ship seized while carrying food to the desperately poor country.

The cargo ship was rescued Tuesday by Somali forces, who arrested seven pirates, but the Spanish boat and its crew remain in the hands of hijackers.

French officials say they are pushing for a resolution that would make it easier for armies to swoop into other countries’ waters and nab pirates. The push comes after French commandos freed hostages on a French tourist yacht seized earlier this month off the coast of Somalia, and then chased the pirates on land and arrested them.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

WELLS FARGO : CIVIL  
FINANCIAL : ACTION  
SAIPAN, INC., : NO. 07-154

Plaintiff, :

-v- :

EDWIN B. CAMACHO and :  
MARIA FE D. CAMACHO :

Defendants. :

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JAMES MACKLIN, )  
 ) FCD-DI  
 ) CIVIL  
Petitioner, ) ACTION  
 ) NO.  
vs. ) 08-0157  
 )  
LIAO SHA, ) AMENDED  
 ) SUMMONS  
Respondent, )

TO: LIAO SHA

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED  
and notified to file any answer you wish to  
make to the Complaint, a copy of which is  
given to you herewith, within twenty (20)  
days after service of the Summons upon you,  
and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer  
to James Macklin whose address is P. O. Box  
503597, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as  
practicable after filing your answer or  
sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and  
filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe,  
Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for  
you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of  
this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not  
necessary for you to appear personally until  
further notice. If you fail to file and answer  
in accordance with this summons, judgment  
by default may be taken against you for the  
relief demanded in the complaint.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 2008.

/s/ Clerk of Court

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that,  
pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in  
this matter on November 19, 2007, I will  
sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder,  
on the terms and conditions set forth  
hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and  
interest of Defendant in and to the following  
property: Lot No. 002 G 116, situated in  
Kagman, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands,  
as more particularly described on  
Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 03, the  
original of which was recorded May 14,  
1991, as December No. 90-1900 at the  
Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The  
sale will be held on Wednesday, May 7,  
2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law  
Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten  
Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana  
Islands. The sale will be open to the general  
public.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.** The  
Terms and Conditions of Sale may be  
obtained from the undersigned, either prior  
to or at the sale. These terms and conditions  
shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 18th day of February, 2008:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JAMES MACKLIN, )  
 ) FCD-DI  
 ) CIVIL  
Petitioner, ) ACTION  
 ) NO.  
vs. ) 08-0157  
 )  
LIAO SHA, ) AMENDED  
 ) SUMMONS  
Respondent, )

TO: LIAO SHA

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED  
and notified to file any answer you wish to  
make to the Complaint, a copy of which is  
given to you herewith, within twenty (20)  
days after service of the Summons upon you,  
and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer  
to James Macklin whose address is P. O. Box  
503597, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as  
practicable after filing your answer or  
sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and  
filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe,  
Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for  
you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of  
this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not  
necessary for you to appear personally until  
further notice. If you fail to file and answer  
in accordance with this summons, judgment  
by default may be taken against you for the  
relief demanded in the complaint.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 2008.

/s/ Clerk of Court

DOMINADOR G. DIMAANO  
ANDADELINA V. DIMAANO  
P.O. Box 501280  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950  
Telephone: 234-0609/2344-0560

PRO-SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF ) FCD - GU  
THE PETITION FOR ) CIVIL ACTION  
GENERAL ) NO. 08-0159  
GUARDIANSHIP OF: )  
ANGELINE CHRISTY ) NOTICE OF  
VELASCO, ) HEARING  
 )  
Minor Child, )  
 )  
DOMINADOR G. )  
DIMAANO )  
AND ADELINA V. )  
DIMAANO, )  
 )  
Petitioners. )

NOTICE IF HEREBY GIVEN that  
Dominador G. Dimaano and Adelina V.  
Dimaano have filed with the Superior Court  
of the Commonwealth of the Northern  
Mariana Islands, a petition requesting that  
they be appointed as General Guardians of  
Angeline Christy Velasco, a minor child, and  
that on May 12, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in  
Courtroom # 205A in Guma Hustisia,  
Susupe, Saipan MP 96950 has been set for  
hearing the petition, when and where all  
persons interested shall appear and show  
cause why prayer of the petition should not  
be granted.

DATED this 11th day of April 2008.

/s/ DOMINADOR G. DIMAANO  
Petitioner/Pro Se

/s/ ADELINA V. DIMAANO  
Petitioner/Pro Se

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board has been changed to May 8, 2008 at 6:00 pm. in the 2nd floor Conference Room of the Department of Public Lands, Joeten Building, DanDan. The public is invited to attend. The agenda will include:

A. Preliminary Matters: Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes, Communications

B. Reports: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Administrator, Committees, Legal Counsel

C. Public Hearings

- No 2008-0670 Application by GPPC for a Conditional Use Permit for an existing nonconforming use on Lot 044 I 01 on As Perdido Rd. in As Lito that includes a contractor’s office and heavy equipment storage.
- No 2008-0815 NMI Request for variance from lot size, and side and rear yard requirements for construction of a Buddhist Temple, housing, dining facility, and parking on Lot 36 A 01 on Chalan Pale Arnold in Marpi.

D. Contested Cases. None

E. Permits and Related Actions - Review and Decide

- No. 2008-0310 Conditional Use Application by UC Corp. for a beach concession.
- No 2008-0670 Conditional Use Application by GPPC for contractor’s office and heavy equipment storage.
- No 2008-0815 NMI Buddhist Temple request for variance from lot size, and side and rear yard setback requirements.

F. Old Business

- Establishment of adult business zoning districts. Review and finalize proposals and initiate public review.

G. New Business

- Amendment of the Saipan Zoning Law and Maps. Discuss public response to the proposed amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law. Approve changes to the Official Zoning Maps. Approval transmittal of approved text revisions to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.
- Additional amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law and Maps. Review and initiate public review of additional changes to the Saipan Zoning Law and Official Zoning Maps.

H. Public Comment

I. Executive (Closed) Session - Consult with legal counsel regarding pending or anticipated legal matters

J. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Steve Tilley, Zoning Administrator at 234-9663. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.). /s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.

Notice of Public Hearing  
Buddhist Temple in Marpi

The public is invited to provide comments at a public hearing on Variance Application No. 2008-0815, by the NMI Buddhist Temple Association. The application is to reduce the lot size, and side and rear yard setback requirements for construction of a Buddhist Temple, housing units, dining facility, and parking on Lot 36 A 01 on Chalan Pale Arnold in Marpi.

Date: May 8, 2008

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: DPL Conference Room, 2nd Floor,  
Joeten Building, DanDan

The Variance Application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan. After the public hearing, the Zoning Board will make a decision on whether to issue or deny the permit.

Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office but they must be received at the Zoning Office by 6:00 pm, May 8, 2008. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Steve Tilley, Zoning Administrator at 234-9663. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC). /s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.

Notice of Public Hearing  
GPPC Contractor’s Office and  
Heavy Equipment Storage

The public is invited to provide comments at a public hearing on Application No. 2008-0670 by GPPC, Inc. The application is for issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for an existing nonconforming use on Lot 044 I 01 on As Perdido Rd. in As Lito. The proposed use includes a contractor’s office and heavy equipment storage.

Date: May 8, 2008

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: DPL Conference Room, 2nd Floor,  
Joeten Building, DanDan

The application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan. After the public hearing, the Zoning Board will make a decision on whether to issue or deny the permit.

Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office but they must be received at the Zoning Office by 6:00 pm, May 8, 2008. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Steve Tilley, Zoning Administrator at 234-9663. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC). /s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.



# Off the Wall

## Buddy crowned the 'most beautiful bulldog'

### Video surfaces of man stuck in an elevator for 41 hours

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A time-lapse video of a man trapped in an elevator for 41 hours has become something of an Internet sensation after surveillance camera footage emerged after nearly a decade.

"After a certain period of time I knew that I was in pretty big trouble because it was the weekend," Nicholas White said Monday on ABC-TV's "Good Morning America."

Video of his Oct. 15, 1999, ordeal in an elevator in New York's McGraw-Hill building was posted online to accompany an article in the April 21 edition of The New Yorker. It can be seen on the magazine's Web site and had been viewed more than 280,000 times on YouTube by Monday morning.

White said he understood why the

video has captured people's attention: So many have wondered what they would do if it happened to them.

Edited to a soundtrack of classical piano music, the video shows him pacing, trying to climb the walls, lying down, curled up in a fetal position, prying apart the doors. (He said he relieved himself down the shaft when the doors were open.)

White sued the managers of the midtown skyscraper and the elevator maintenance company and won an undisclosed settlement.

He was a production manager for Business Week when he left his office about 11 p.m. Friday for a cigarette break. According to the article, it was never determined exactly why the elevator stalled though there was talk of a voltage dip.

**DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)**—Buddy is a sleeping beauty: Reddish brown, he's usually asleep on his

back, snoring loudly with his large tongue lolling out.

He was wide-awake Monday,

though, when he was crowned winner of a "Beautiful Bulldog" contest.

"He doesn't have a good stamina to him ... he's been laying around all winter," said George DuBois from Ankeny, Iowa, who owns Buddy with his wife, Cindy. "Just in the last 10, 15 days we've done some walking. We've been getting in shape for this."

The DuBois' 3-year-old dog was among 50 bulldogs from mostly Midwestern states who came to compete. The beauty contest honors Drake University's mascot and one of the events leading up to the Drake Relays, one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious track and field competitions.

"I'm so excited. I didn't think he had what it took to get it," said Cindy DuBois. "His mom is back home and she won't know what to think when he comes home with all this good stuff."

Buddy competed unadorned, unlike many of his rivals. They dressed up as fairy princesses, rock stars, cheerleaders, bumblebees and even Snow White and Mr. T.

Bella Star of Elmwood, Ill., had her nails painted red and wore a Hawaiian lei, pink bikini top and a grass skirt. The skirt slipped off as she strutted down the "dogwalk" before the judges.

"We felt this best represented her personality," said owner Amanda Price. "She's very fun-loving, high-spirited."

Buddy panted heavily as he sat on his throne, getting used to his new crown and cape as photographers snapped his picture. On Saturday, he'll ride in a golf cart at Drake Stadium before about 18,000 spectators.

"I don't think he really wants attention all that much ... he wants to be with people," said George DuBois. "He's just a rascal."



Buddy sits on the throne as he is crowned Most Beautiful Bulldog by his owner, George DuBois, of Ankeny, Iowa, at the 29th Annual Beautiful Bulldog Contest in Des Moines, Iowa, on Monday, April 21, 2008.

### OFFBEAT BRIEFS

#### Jell-O snack packs splatter over highway in Florida

**JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)**—A driver is being treated at a Saint Johns County hospital after his truck overturned, spilling Jell-O snack packs all over I-95. Police say the driver's truck flipped over this morning after it slammed into another truck. Individual packs of Jell-O splattered all over the highway, which caused a major traffic jam. The driver was trapped inside the mangled truck, but was quickly rescued by police. He was airlifted to the hospital and is being treated for non-life threatening injuries. Police say no one else was hurt in the crash.

#### Disney workers recover rings mistakenly thrown away

**ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)**—Walt Disney World seems to have worked its magic on a Massachusetts couple who accidentally threw away three platinum and diamond wedding rings. While tidying up their villa as they prepared to leave the park late last week, Paul Campanale dumped a cardboard bowl, not knowing the container inside it held his wife Karen's engagement, wedding and five-year-anniversary rings. Park employees warned the couple from Worcester, Mass., that recovering the jewelry was all but impossible. So on Friday, the Campanales and their two children loaded onto a Magical Express bus and headed to the airport. Back at the Wilderness Lodge resort, executive housekeeper Drew Weaver realized that trash from the Campanales' villa hadn't reached the industrial-size compactor yet. He and seven other volunteers donned protective clothing, emptied a parking lot bin and waded through bag after bag of rubbish to find the rings. And they did. Paul Campanale, 37, a chemist, received the good news on his cell phone and Weaver met the family to deliver the rings. Karen Campanale, 35, a teacher, said she was shocked by the find. "That's

not the first time we've gone through trash—oh, no," Weaver said. "We don't always find things. Many times we come up empty. But we didn't this time."

#### Police arrest 2 in India for allegedly stealing sperm

**MUMBAI, India (AP)**—A laboratory technician who allegedly tried to make a quick buck by stealing samples from the Indian sperm bank where he worked has been arrested after a doctor tipped off police, authorities said Tuesday. The employee allegedly stole the sperm from a sperm bank in the western city of Aurangabad, and tried to sell 101 vials of it to a doctor in Mumbai for about \$625, Aurangabad police chief Krishna Lal Bishnoi said. The doctor declined and called police, who arrested the lab employee and a relative, Bishnoi told The Associated Press. "The doctor contacted police because they (doctors) usually refer patients to infertility clinics for treatment. They are never approached with sperm vials on sale," Bishnoi said. Infertility expert Dr. Aniruddha Malpani described the alleged theft as "bizarre" because vials that are not properly labeled would be "worse than useless."

#### Woman finds 8-foot gator in her kitchen

**OLDSMAR, Fla. (AP)**—And some people get jittery about mice in the kitchen. Authorities say 69-year-old central Florida woman found an 8-foot long alligator prowling in her kitchen late Monday night. Sandra Frosti says the gator must have pushed through the back porch screen door and then went inside through an open sliding glass door at her home in Oldsmar, just north of Tampa. It then apparently strolled through the living room, down a hall and into the kitchen. A trapper with Animal Capture of Florida removed the alligator, which was cut by a plate that was knocked to the ground during the chaos. But no one inside the house was injured.

## Homemade 'Bum Bot' patrols in Atlanta

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Cars passing O'Terrill's pub screech to a halt at the sight of a 300-pound, waist-high robot marked "SECURITY" rolling through downtown long after dark.

The regulars hardly glance outside. They've seen bar owner Rufus Terrill's invention on patrol before—its bright red lights and even brighter spot light blazing, infrared video camera filming and water cannon at the ready in the spinning turret on top.

"You're trespassing. That's private property," Terrill scolds an older man through the robot's loudspeaker. The man is sitting at the edge of the driveway to a child care center down the street. "Go on."

The man's hands go up and he

shuffles into the shadows. Almost immediately, a group of men behind him scatters too.

The Bum Bot's reputation, it seems, has preceded it.

The electronic vigilante—on the beat since September—has enraged neighborhood activists, who have threatened protests. Street people say it's intimidating. And homeless advocates question the intentions of its inventor, who uses the Bum Bot as a marketing tool and a political prop.

Terrill, a 57-year-old ex-Marine, asserts his motives are pure: He says more police now patrol the area at night, the park across the street feels safer and he's had no break-ins since the cube-shaped robot, which Terrill controls

with a wireless remote, has roamed the area. To Henrik Christensen, director of Georgia Tech's Robotics and Intelligent Machines Center, the Bum Bot exploits the kind of anxiety that underlies the Terminator movies.

"We have a Hollywood picture that they're going to run amok, kill people and do bad things. This Bum Bot plays on that stereotype," Christensen says. "For the rest of us who want to use technology to assist people in their daily lives, it's an obstacle."

Just north of downtown Atlanta, Terrill's bar is near luxury apartment complexes, condo towers and Terrill's home. But vagrants gather at a nearby homeless shelter. Break-ins and robberies are common.

## Spider plague closes Australian hospital

**SYDNEY, Australia (AP)**—A tiny Australian hospital is closing temporarily because of an infestation of poisonous spiders.

The Baralaba Multi Purpose Health Service will close for 24 hours starting Thursday morning so officials can fumigate the building to get rid of redback spiders that have been found in large numbers in the main part of the hospital.

Three or four patients will need to be moved to another hospital while the building is closed, according to a statement from Queensland state health officials.

Redback spiders, common throughout most of the country, have a painful bite and a toxic venom, although an anti-venom is available.

The statement said warm weather had caused more redback spider eggs

to hatch than usual.

"We believe the best way to deal with them, and the safest option for staff and patients, is to have the whole building fumigated so both the spiders and their eggs are killed," Ellen Palmer, rural director of nursing, said in the statement Wednesday.

Nearly 300 people live in Baralaba, about 320 kilometers (200 miles) northwest of Brisbane.



# Science & Technology

## Breakthrough of the podcast authors

By MIKE MUSGROVE  
© 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—As a regular listener of the podcast version of the nationally syndicated radio talk show “Don and Mike,” I’ve been a little worried lately.

Just about every day since the locally produced show has been available as a free regular download on iTunes, it has kept me company on my two-hour commute to and from work. But last Friday was host Don Geronimo’s last day, and I don’t know yet whether the rejiggered version of the show will hold my attention.

Fortunately, there are lots of other entertainment options out there in the podcast world. Lately I’ve been trying out some free, downloadable books provided at a site called Paudiobooks.com.

Never heard of it? I hadn’t either, but some of the 196 titles available at the site aren’t bad. The works here are mostly by authors who couldn’t get book deals for their manuscripts, but two writers have attracted such large online followings through the site that they’ve managed to land deals with major New York publishers.

Horror writer Scott Sigler, one of the pioneers in this area, began regularly posting readings of his first book in March 2005. “EarthCore,” broken up into 45-minute chunks that he posted on a weekly basis, won an audience of 10,000 listeners. His second book, “Ancestor,” did even better, scoring 30,000 subscribers. A small Canadian publisher signed on to release his third book in a small paperback run.

This month, Sigler’s fourth book de-



THE WASHINGTON POST

Horror writer Scott Sigler is one of the pioneers in the arena of free, downloadable books. His first book, “EarthCore,” was posted on a weekly basis and eventually won an audience of 10,000 listeners at Paudiobooks.com.

buted in a hardcover release for the first time, from Crown Publishing Group, an imprint of Random House. Crown has printed an initial run of 100,000 copies of “Infected,” Sigler’s bloody tale about a parasite that turns its human

hosts violently insane. That’s a high figure for the book industry, where mostly unknown authors usually get an initial print run of only a few thousand.

“There’s a big chip on our shoulders,” Sigler said of his fellow authors

in the podcast community. “We’re sitting on these giant stacks of rejections, and we’ve got an attitude: ‘We’re going to show you it’ll sell. We’re going to show you we’re right.’”

Crown publisher Tina Constable indicates that podcasts could become a source of new material for publication. “We are always looking for new outlets and fresh voices throughout the book acquisition process,” she wrote in an e-mailed statement. “Podcasts are a perfect place to discover dynamic content and talent that comes with a built-in audience.”

Sigler’s editor says the company has been impressed that Sigler fans have requested promotional materials about the book to try to spread the word about the new hardcover edition of “Infected.”

Without a publisher’s PR team to get the word out, podcasting authors have had to dream up innovative ways to promote themselves to build their audiences.

Author J.C. Hutchins, for example, raised the profile for his podcasts by getting actors and directors to record short promotional clips that are incorporated into his weekly recordings. Famous zombie flick director George Romero, for example, recorded one such clip when Hutchins tracked him down at a fan convention. At Hutchins’ Web site, a “minister of propaganda” routinely sends his readers on missions that vary from burning CDs and passing them along to printing out promotional postcards and slipping them onto shelves at the local bookstore.

Hutchins describes starting his first recording as something of a desperate act. “I was convinced the thing was dead than disco,” Hutchins said of

his book, when he started podcasting the first book of his “7th Son” trilogy, a thriller about a group of clones.

The first book in the trilogy is scheduled for publication by St. Martin’s Press next year.

“It proves that there are smarter ways to getting published than just sending a manuscript over the transom to a publisher,” said Cory Doctorow, a sci-fi author who is also well known as an editor of the popular blog BoingBoing.

Doctorow’s next book, which he said is about a group of young hackers who fight the Department of Homeland Security to reinstitute the Bill of Rights in the United States, is coming out later this month. Tor Teen books is publishing the dead-tree version, and it will also be available free online at his Web site. The book will be available as a free download in formats that will be easy to read on, say, the screen of a PDA.

As with podcasts, the idea is to win over potential converts with free content in the hopes that readers or listeners buy something down the road.

“The experience for me has been that e-books sell print books,” Doctorow said. He said he knows many authors who have tried podcasting or publishing online, but none who discontinued the practice.

So far, it looks as if Sigler’s and Hutchins’ stories will have upbeat endings.

At last check, “Infected” was No. 2 on Amazon’s list of best-selling horror novels, and film rights have been sold. A sequel is in the works.

As for Hutchins, it will be a dream come true when his first book is published and available at bookstores next year.

“I don’t know if I’ll ever stop grinning,” he said.

## New PC runs Mac system for less

Macolytes around the world were buzzing this week with news that an online hardware vendor called Psystar.com is selling a \$555 PC called the “Open Computer” that runs the Macintosh OS X Leopard operating system.

In fact, for about the same price, you can buy the machine with Windows or Leopard installed—or buy it for \$400 with the open-source Linux operating system.

For Mac lovers accustomed to paying the Apple premium, this would be a major breakthrough—at the very least, a cheap source for the second or third computer they can’t afford (or justify to their spouses) at Apple’s regular prices.

If you’re a Windows PC user who wants to try the Mac operating system without much risk, this could be a good deal, too. If Leopard fails to make you feel as cool as Apple’s commercials insists you’ll feel, you can replace it with stuffy old Microsoft Windows for \$150 or so.

There are potential drawbacks to a deal like this, including Apple’s army of attack lawyers and policy of death to usurpers. But we’ll discuss those later.

Right now, the hardware looks like a good deal. With a 2.2 GHz Intel Core2Duo processor, 2 gigabytes of memory, 250 gigabyte hard drive and standard chassis for expansion, the OpenPC’s baseline specs run rings around Apple’s only low-end offering, the Mac Mini.

A beefier version of the Psystar computer

called the Open Pro, which starts at \$999, is aimed at Apple’s high-flying Mac Pro, a favorite with graphic designers. Like its entry-level brother, the Open Pro is much cheaper than the Mac with which it competes. Whether it can keep up with Mac Pro’s performance is a different matter, but in a second or third machine, many buyers may not care.

The Attack of the PC Clones has been all-but-inevitable since 2006, when Apple gave up its proprietary hardware and switched to the same Intel-based platforms that Apple Chairman Steven P. Jobs has spent so many years trashing.

I discovered how profound this change was a couple of months ago when my younger son decided he wanted a Macbook, Apple’s entry level laptop.

We went to the local Apple store and priced out the model he wanted, which came to about \$1,300. Out of curiosity, I wandered over to a Dell computer kiosk a few yards away and found a 13-inch laptop with nearly identical components, and I mean identical. The two computers were priced less than \$50 apart: aside from the color of the case (Dell red versus Apple white), the substantive difference was the operating system.

I found the same pricing in Apple’s other lines. After decades of charging a premium for its hardware, Apple now prices its computers pretty much where mainstream Windows PC makers price similarly configured machines.

What differentiates Apple is that it doesn’t play in the low end of the market. Most consumer desktop PCs sell for \$800 or less. That’s pretty much where Macs start. But there is no technical barrier to running the Mac OS on a low-cost PC with enough horsepower to handle it.

Aside from potential compatibility and driver issues that could make the OpenPC a better option for experienced users than novices, the main problem with running Leopard on a non-Mac is that Apple says you can’t do it.

That prohibition is part of the 50,000-word End User License Agreement (EULA) that you say you’ve read when you click on a box somewhere during the installation process.

In most cases, experts say, these agreements aren’t worth the electrons they’re written on. However, when you challenge someone who can afford as many lawyers as Apple can hire, it doesn’t matter whether you’re right, but whether you can prove it before you go belly up. That’s been enough to scare off most Apple challengers for the past decade or so.

Apple did flirt with outside hardware makers in the 1990s, when the company was going through a rough patch and licensed its OS to a handful of PC makers working with the PowerPC processor. These guys made perfectly good Mac clones and sold them much cheaper than Apple’s machines, which didn’t do much for Apple’s bottom line.

When Jobs rejoined the outfit in 1997, he immediately put a stop to that—and Apple’s profits soared. When you have a loyal fan base that is willing to pay a premium for your product, why would you let other people sell it cheaper?

But what happens now that anyone, theoretically, can make a PC that runs the Mac OS? Psystar—which has a going IT support business—argues that it has purchased Leopard legitimately, and that Apple’s insistence on running the OS on its hardware violates U.S. antitrust laws.

Psystar does have a precedent in its favor, a

By MIKE HIMOWITZ  
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E-mail Himowitz at mike.himowitz@baltsun.com.



1984 U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision holding that a software publisher can’t require you to run an operating system on a specific type of hardware. The Supreme Court refused to review the case.

Apple has not commented on the upstart—and it may not have to. It can always sabotage the usurper by issuing updates that won’t run on the alien machine, or that disable it. Apple has done that with iPhones that users have hacked to run on wireless carriers other than Apple’s chosen, AT&T.

Most users install operating system updates automatically by downloading them over the Internet, so this could be a no-brainer for Apple. Of course, Psystar could issue a patch to counter Apple’s patch, and Apple could issue a counter-counter patch in its next release, but that’s not much fun for users.

The saving grace for buyers who want to experiment is that this Mac “clone” can be transformed into a real Windows machine by slipping a Windows CD in the drive. So you have to bet only the cost of a new operating system, which is unlikely to affect anyone’s retirement. To paraphrase an old John Updike essay, the OpenPC is progress with an escape hatch.

For more information, visit [www.psystar.com](http://www.psystar.com).



# Anti-virus programs aren't one-stop stoppers

By **ROB PEGORARO**  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

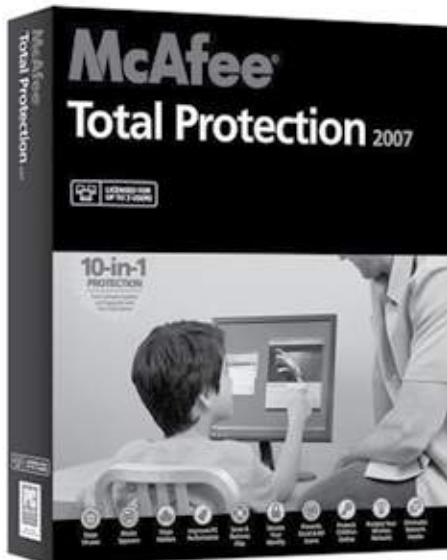
Many Windows users worry about viruses. Some also worry about the software that's supposed to protect their computers from viruses.

That second fear comes in two flavors: that a security program will unintentionally sabotage your machine and that it will get more complicated every year.

Once, not too many years ago, you could feel safe with just an anti-virus program.

But over the past few years, security-software developers have kept adding new defenses for new dangers: worms, spyware, spam, phishing and so on. More recently, by adding tools to back up your data, they've built all-in-one suites that claim to do everything to defend a Windows machine.

The idea is to end your computing anxieties with a single installation. But after testing three of these bundles—Symantec's Norton 360 Version 2.0, McAfee's Total Protection and Microsoft's Windows Live OneCare—I wonder whether



attaining that goal is possible.

All of these packages include the same defensive lineup of anti-virus, anti-spyware and firewall protection, with side orders of Web phishing filters, data backups and performance tuneups. McAfee adds spam filtering and parental-control features, while Symantec provides those features in a free, optional download.

Norton 360 and McAfee Total Protection cost \$80 a year to run on three computers (McAfee has a \$20 rebate available), while OneCare runs \$50 a year

for use on three PCs. Norton 360 and OneCare run on Windows XP and Vista; McAfee Total Protection also runs on Win 2000.

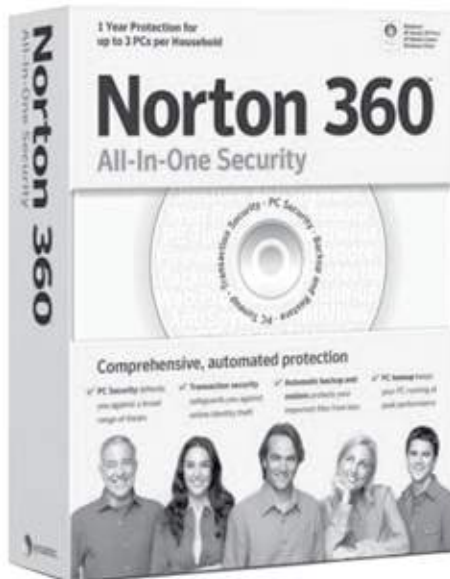
For this kind of program, "success" means keeping the PC safe and then keeping out of your way.

To test that fairly, I created a test XP system, with all of Microsoft's patches and a grab-bag of other programs, then cloned three copies of it, one for each suite, using the Parallels Desktop "virtual machine" program on a Mac. (I picked XP over Vista because Vista includes many of these programs' security fixes, such as spyware protection.)

That test revealed one surprise: For all the griping about how security programs can instantly bog down a system, these three did not. Each took up only 50 to 70 more megabytes of memory than the free, anti-virus-only AVG program. Norton 360 was only slightly more efficient than the

other two.

But other glitches surfaced. Microsoft's Outlook 2007 mail program froze once in the McAfee and OneCare installations. Windows itself locked up mid-shutdown on the McAfee system, and Norton 360 stalled a



shutdown when its "ccSvcHst" profile wouldn't quit. (Incidentally: Why can't Symantec use real names for these program files?)

Should a known virus land on your machine, you should be able to count on these programs to swat it aside. But Norton 360 took its time issuing a verdict on new downloads and once didn't stop me from installing some fairly obvious spyware—which it then volunteered to evict afterward.

To Norton 360's credit, it also had the least-intrusive firewall. I never had to change any settings to authorize a legitimate pro-

gram's online activity. OneCare and McAfee both needed my input before such third-party programs as an Apple CD/DVD-sharing tool would work.

I was least impressed with these programs' anti-spam and anti-phishing tools, which largely duplicated what modern Web browsers and mail programs already include.

If, however, you simply cannot stop yourself from clicking on a Web link, McAfee's SiteAdvisor might be the restraint you need. It not only stops access to many—but not all—sites hosting viruses and phishing scams, it also blocks many sites used by spammers.

That brings up a bigger security issue, one ignored by all three suites: the

Internet-connected programs on a PC besides your browser and mail software, each of which can be attacked separately. None of these programs warned that the test copies of XP lacked important security fixes for Adobe's Flash plug-in, leaving them open to hijacking by hostile Web sites.

Should that happen, causing your computer to get infected and your data to disappear, McAfee might offer the least

security of all. Its clumsy, ugly backup tool's default settings left almost all my data unprotected.

Microsoft and Symantec provided simpler, more capable backup programs. But if you run a non-Microsoft Web browser, photo album or music player, you may need to tinker with their settings.

Is the picture clearing up now? None of these "do it all" programs does it all sufficiently well. You're better off mixing different programs—for example, pairing the free firewall in XP and Vista with a basic anti-virus program.

Beyond that, the most important security upgrade is in your own head: don't-take-candy-from-strangers skepticism, without which no security program can keep your computer safe.



## AT&T Mobility chief warms to Android

**LAS VEGAS (AP)**—After initially being standoffish, the head of AT&T Inc.'s wireless arm has taken a liking to Google Inc.'s project to create a new operating system for cell phones.

"I like it a lot more than I did before," said Ralph de la Vega, chief executive of AT&T Mobility, Wednesday told an audience of journalists and analysts at the CTIA Wireless show in Las Vegas. "It's something we would want in our portfolio."

AT&T has been something of a holdout from Google's Open Handset Alliance. T-Mobile

USA and Sprint Nextel Corp. are members, and Verizon Wireless has said it will throw its network open to any device, which would include phones with the software, called Android.

In December, de la Vega compared Android unfavorably to Apple Inc.'s iPhone, for which AT&T is the exclusive carrier, and said "the jury is still out" on the project.

His change of heart comes from meeting Google executives, who showed him that AT&T will be able to put its own applications on Android phones it

sells. Previously, he said, he had been concerned that the platform would be oriented too much toward Google applications.

"I think it's going to be a good option for us and a good option for our customers," de la Vega said.

One of Google's aims with the software is to make its Web services, like search, e-mail and maps, easily accessible on a cell phone. By extension, it wants to extend its dominance in Internet advertising to the wireless sphere. Phones using the software are expected to show up later this year.

**Q: My wireless network's signal keeps dropping out. If it's not my cordless phone that's jamming the signal, could it be my neighbor's?**

**A:** This question came several months ago from a friend whose bizarre technological mishaps have acquired quasi-legendary status. He had read that some cordless phones use the same radio band as WiFi and wondered if they could be at fault.

After we determined that his own phone didn't cause these problems—manufacturers learned years ago to use slightly different frequencies than WiFi—I suggested that a phone in the adjacent rowhouse might be at fault. But his neighbor protested his innocence.

The situation remained a mystery until my friend was reheating some food in the microwave and saw it start to smoke inside the oven.

## HELP FILE

By **ROB PEGORARO**  
(c) 2008, The Washington Post



(His wife suggested that "user error" might have been involved in that.) He cut the power to the oven—and with the microwave out of commission, his wireless problems largely ended.

This roughly 20-year-old microwave apparently leaked enough radio waves to jam the WiFi signal. So if you're having wireless problems, don't forget to consider your microwave. Keep a fire extinguisher handy in the kitchen, too.

■ ■ ■  
**Q: Can I get RSS feeds via e-mail?**

**A:** The free RSS FWD (rss-fwd.com) will send a site's "really simple syndication" update to your inbox, with a one-click unsubscribe available. And unlike such competing services as SendMeRSS (sendmess.com), this one doesn't need the address of a site's RSS feed—its home page will do.

The filters at some mail systems, however, may block these messages. Although RSS FWD e-mails showed up at a Yahoo account, none arrived at AOL or Hotmail addresses. SendMeRSS messages didn't get through to AOL, either.

## How to write a vacation blog

(c) 2008, Newsday

Tips for making your vacation blog:

■ Enlist the kids to help create the blog. Blog providers allow you to customize the look of your blog. If you go on a tropical vacation, for instance, you could choose aqua as a background color.

■ Give it a trial run. Try posting text entries, photos and videos a week or so before you leave for your trip. This will put

you at ease with the process before you're at your destination.

■ Take turns being the entry's creator. Each night of vacation, a different family member can be in charge of writing the post and choosing visuals. Set up the schedule in advance, so the writer will be thinking about fodder during the day's outings.

■ Don't try to cover the entire day's itinerary. The blog then becomes too much of a list. Instead, delve into one high point, something interesting, funny or

disastrous that happened.

■ Respect your child's voice. "It's very easy as parents to say, 'Why don't you write about this?' 'Why don't you write about that?'" You have to really catch yourself," said Jennifer Denniston, who has blogged with her family from Singapore and Australia.

■ Include people and sites in each picture or video clip. If you are posting a photo of the Grand Canyon, for instance, be sure to get some of your family members in the foreground.

## Lolcat site hiring; spelling skillz optional

**NEW YORK (AP)**—"I can haz dream Job? My rezumez! let me showz u thm"

That's the subject line of a cover letter sent by a job applicant to I Can Has Cheezburger, one of the premier sites for so-called Lolcat pictures.

Don't think the letter will be rejected out of hand - bad spelling is no obstacle to a job in Lolcat world. It may even be an asset.

Lolcats became an Internet craze last year. A typical example shows a picture of a fat and hopeful cat accompanied by a caption in a baby-talk-like dialect known as Lolspeak: "I CAN

HAS CHEEZBURGER?"

Apparently, looking at Lolcats all day is an appealing job. Ben Huh, founder of the site and chief executive of Seattle-based Pet Holdings Inc., has received 250 applications since the job was posted on Monday under the headline "Kittehs Want Moar Workerhumans."

"I got a stack of resumes that I can't even go through," Huh said. "You know how they say, 'Spell everything correctly because the people reading your resume will toss it out otherwise?' Well, we can't even do that. We won't knock you out

for spelling.... The traditional resume screening methods don't apply here."

The winning applicant will join three other people who moderate ICHC and a few related Pet Holdings sites (think dogs with funny captions). A big part of the job will be selecting from the 7,000 submissions the company receives every day of captioned photos, plus 2,000 uncaptioned ones.

Cat ownership is not required, just "a great sense of humor, a deep understanding and love of the Internets and a strong work ethic."



# Island Snapshots



## HARD ROCK VISITORS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pin collectors from Denmark, Netherlands, Germany and mainland United States are welcomed by Hard Rock Café regional director for Operations Shabbir Godil and Saipan operations manager Aldwin Cullat at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on Sunday. The eight pin collectors are part of a larger group of Hard Rock enthusiasts whose hobby is to visit Hard Rock Café branches across the globe and collect pins.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

## WASC MEETING

Tanapag Elementary School 4th grade student Kadi Camacho search for a book inside the campus library while Western Association of Schools and Colleges representatives report to the teachers and staff about the weeklong inspection and review of the school's accreditation status Wednesday.



## WEEKLY CLEANUP

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Friends of the Mariana Islands during their weekly cleanup activities at the Garapan Tourist District and ISA Drive.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FMI members clean up the Garapan Tourist District as part of its Mobil-funded project. This was the 11th cleanup conducted by FMI in Garapan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Friends of the Mariana Islands pose for a souvenir picture after the April cleanup.



## YOUNG SUPPORTER

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Seven-year-old Carla Mae Ballesteros plays beside a banner during the Human Dignity Movement's petition signing calling for permanent immigration status in the CNMI near Townhouse Store in Chalan Kanoa on Saturday.



## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Birthday greetings going out to our co-worker Rita Cabrera, who is celebrating her birthday today, APRIL 25, 2008. Wishing her the best birthday ever and many more to come. Greetings come from The Senate Girls.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## PETITION SIGNING

Anthony Buenaflor signs the petition calling for permanent immigration status in the CNMI near Townhouse Store in Chalan Kanoa Saturday last week. The Human Dignity Movement organized the event.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



## ISLAND VISITORS

Como magazine crew visits the Marianas Visitors Authority office while shooting on Saipan. Como will promote Saipan as a family destination in its July issue.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## PRESSCON

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Clyde K. Norita answers a question from the media while Attorney General Matthew T. Gregory looks on during Wednesday's press briefing at the Governor's conference room on Capital Hill.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



## Life & Style

# English celebrate with flags, food on St. George's Day

**LONDON** (AP)—Londoners gathered Wednesday in Trafalgar Square, beneath statues of imperial lions and military heroes, to celebrate England's patron saint—a third-century Turkish soldier who supposedly had the power to slay a dragon but likely never set foot in Britain.

Little wonder the English have an identity crisis.

April 23 is St. George's Day, England's national day. But it's not a public holiday, and for decades it passed largely unnoticed—a far cry from its rowdy Irish counterpart, St. Patrick's Day.

"We tend to be a bit more reserved. It's an English trait," said Janis Whincup, who attended the Trafalgar Square celebrations with a red and white St. George's flag draped over her shoulders.

That may be changing—St. George's Day is experiencing a revival, as is the idea of Englishness itself.

Outside the realm of sport, English patriotism and the St. George flag long were shunned by liberal-minded Britons, regarded as the preserve of right-wing "Little Englanders" steeped in nostalgia and a mistrust of foreigners. Politicians promoted the notion of Britishness—an amalgamated identity open to native and foreign-born citizens, and to English, Welsh and Scottish alike.

But with devolution of political power from London to Scotland and Wales—both of which have gained legislatures and a new assertiveness in the last decade—that British identity has begun to fray.

The English make up 50 million of Britain's 60 million inhabitants, and many feel it's time they celebrated their heritage—if only they can agree on what it is.

"English people aren't proud enough of their own country,"



People enjoy in central London's Trafalgar Square, during the Festival of English Food, coinciding with celebrations for St. George's Day, Wednesday April 23, 2008.

said Pamela Ealham, a 75-year-old retiree. "We're English; we should celebrate it."

Politicians have begun to embrace Englishness. For the first time on the saint's day, the St. George's Cross flag flew Wednesday above the 10 Downing St. residence of Prime Minister Gordon Brown—a Scot.

"The prime minister's view is that of course we should celebrate our Britishness," said Brown's spokesman, Michael Ellam. "But celebrating our Britishness does not mean we cannot also celebrate our Eng-

lishness, Scottishness, Welshness or Northern Irishness."

There are signs of an unofficial revival, too. Pubs across the country planned celebratory roast beef dinners Wednesday. Party-supply companies reported a sharp rise in sales of red-and-white hats and streamers.

In recent years, sports has played a big part in rehabilitating the symbols of Englishness. When England's rugby team won the World Cup in 2003, and when its cricket squad beat Australia in 2005, jubilant fans waved the flag of St. George,

giving it a new visibility.

But the flag remains, especially for immigrants and ethnic minority Britons, a touchy symbol.

There were few flags on display at the officially sanctioned Trafalgar Square celebration, which focused on an aspect of England unlikely to offend anything but the palate: food.

Despite its dire reputation, English food is having something of a renaissance. Stalls lining the square sold pork pies and sausage rolls, blackcurrant jam, Stilton and Leicester cheeses and fresh oysters, crabs and scallops.

A distinctive cuisine unites the people of England. The preservation group English Heritage, which is encouraging people to celebrate St. George's Day, published a "how to" guide including traditional English recipes—from cheese scones to chicken tikka masala, an Anglo-Indian hybrid that rivals fish and chips as the country's most popular dish.

Debate rages about what it means to be English. Is English

culture Morris dancing, or Britpop? Are the English an Anglo-Saxon race, or a polyglot nation built on waves of immigration, from Vikings and Normans to Indians, Pakistanis, Jamaicans, Poles and Lithuanians?

Traditional English nationalists tend to be wary of immigration and skeptical of closer ties with Europe. But a new breed of "civic nationalists," including the singer Billy Bragg and the writer Paul Kingsnorth, favor embracing multiculturalism and membership in Europe. In a recent article for the *New Statesman*, Kingsnorth called it patriotism "attached to place not race, geography not biology."

Peter Tatchell, a gay rights and civil-liberties campaigner, argued that St. George should be adopted as a symbol of "freedom, dissent and multiculturalism."

Little is known for certain about the saint's life, but he is thought to have been a soldier of the Roman Empire from Cappadocia, in present-day Turkey,

who was executed after refusing to persecute Christians. The story of him slaying a dragon that was terrorizing a village has been circulating since the Middle Ages. He is the patron saint of several countries—including Germany, Portugal and Georgia, which is named for him—as well as the city of Beirut and the Boy Scout movement.

St. George's popularity spread from the Middle East to Europe with knights returning from the Crusades, and he came to be regarded as a protector of English troops. In 1222 religious leaders in England—which was then Roman Catholic—declared a holiday in his honor, and by the end of the 14th century he was seen as England's patron saint.

"He was a rebel from the Middle East. His father was Turkish and his mother probably Palestinian," Tatchell said. "St. George's parentage embodies multiculturalism and his life expresses the values of English liberalism and dissent."



People enjoy the good weather in central London's Trafalgar Square, during the Festival of English Food, coinciding with celebrations for St. George's Day, Wednesday April 23, 2008.

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Snips and snails and puppydog tails ... and cereal and bananas?

That could be what little boys are made of, according to surprising new research suggesting that what a woman eats before pregnancy influences the gender of her baby.

Having a hearty appetite, eating potassium-rich foods including bananas, and not skipping breakfast all seemed to raise the odds of having a boy.

The British research is billed as the first in humans to show a link between a woman's diet and whether she has a boy or girl.

It is not proof, but it fits with evidence from test tube fertilization that male embryos thrive best with longer exposure to nutrient-rich lab

## Mom's diet may play role in whether baby is boy or girl

cultures, said Dr. Tarun Jain. He is a fertility specialist at University of Illinois at Chicago who wasn't involved in the study.

It just might be that it takes more nutrients to build boys than girls, he said.

University of Exeter researcher Fiona Mathews, the study's lead author, said the findings also fit with fertility research showing that male embryos aren't likely to survive in lab cultures with low sugar levels. Skipping meals can result in low blood sugar levels.

Jain said he was skeptical when he first heard about the research. But he said the study was well-done and merits follow-up study to see if the theory proves true.

It's not necessarily as far-fetched as it sounds. While men's sperm determine a baby's gender, it could be that certain nutrients or eating patterns make women's bodies more hospitable to sperm carrying the male chromosome, Jain said.

"It's an interesting question. I'm not aware of anyone else looking at it in this manner," he said.

The study was published Wednesday in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, a British medical journal.

The research involved about 700 first-time pregnant women in the United Kingdom who didn't know the sex of their fetuses. They were asked about their eating habits in the year before getting pregnant.

Among women with the highest calorie intake before pregnancy (but still within a normal, healthy range), 56 percent had boys, versus 45 percent of the women with the lowest calorie intake.

Women who ate at least one bowl of breakfast cereal daily were 87 percent more likely to have boys than those who ate no more than one bowlful per week. Cereal is a typical breakfast in Britain and in the study, eating very little cereal was considered a possible sign of skipping breakfast, Mathews said.

Compared with the women who had girls, those who had boys ate an additional 300 milligrams of potassium daily on average, "which links quite nicely

with the old wives' tale that if you eat bananas you'll have a boy," Mathews said.

Women who had boys also ate about 400 calories more daily than those who had girls, on average, she said.

Still, no one's recommending pigging out if you really want a boy or starving yourself if you'd prefer a girl.

Neither style of eating is healthy, and besides all the health risks linked with excess weight, other research suggests obese women have a harder time getting pregnant.

The study results reflect women at opposite ends of a normal eating pattern, not those with extreme habits, Mathews said.

Professor Stuart West of the

University of Edinburgh said the results echo research in some animals.

And Dr. Michael Lu, an associate professor of obstetrics, gynecology and public health at the University of California at Los Angeles, said the results "are certainly plausible from an evolutionary biology perspective." In other words, since boys tend to be bigger, it would make sense that it would take more calories to create them, Lu said.

Still, Lu said a woman's diet before pregnancy may be a marker for other factors in their lives that could influence their baby's gender, including timing of intercourse.

"The bottom line is, we still don't know how to advise patients in how to make boys," he said.



# Paris Hilton talks about public search for new best friend

LOS ANGELES (AP)—More than 85,000 people want to be Paris Hilton's best friend.

The 27-year-old is using the Internet to cast potential friends for her new reality show, "Paris Hilton's My New BFF." The MTV series, which begins production next month, will follow 20 contestants as they live together and vie for the chance to be Hilton's permanent plus-one.

Thousands of candidates have posted profiles and videos on ParisBFF.com in hopes of winning a spot on the show. Visitors to the site can vote for their favorites, and the top vote-getters will be added to the cast, producers said.

The site has already collected more than 6 million page views since it went live five weeks ago. And the heiress herself is among those checking out the daily posts.

Hilton, who also serves as the show's executive producer, took time out after an MTV business meeting to talk with The Associated Press about her public quest for friendship.

**AP: Why take your search for a new best friend to the reality-TV world?**

**Hilton:** Well I did "The Simple Life" for five seasons. I had a great time. I love reality TV. It's my favorite to watch. When I was approached with this idea

I just thought it would be so much fun, being a producer on the show as well, having boys and girls move into a house all vying to be my best friend, I just thought it'd be fun and I'd also like to meet some new friends.

**AP: Do you think you can find a real, lasting friendship this way? Do you have a preference of male or female?**

**Hilton:** I just want to see the contestants and see how they are. I don't care if it's a boy or a girl, just as long as its someone I can trust, someone I can have fun with and just someone who's going to be able to like handle all the other things that are going to come with being my best friend.

**AP: Like what?**

**Hilton:** Just being in the media, just someone who's not going to care about that, just someone who cares about me.

**AP: What are some of the qualities you're looking for in a new best friend?**

**Hilton:** Just someone who's fun, someone who I can trust and just someone who, I don't know, just someone to get along with that is not going to screw me over. Just someone to have a great time with.

**AP: You recently found a new best friend in Benji Madden. What are some of the challenges in finding friends you click with?**

**Hilton:** It is hard meeting new people. Most of my friends I've had my entire life, like obviously my sister and Nicole Richie have been with me forever. So when I meet new people, I'm always a little wary of the reason they may want to become my friend. I can usually just tell



AP

Paris Hilton is shown at the debut of her Paris Hilton Footwear Collection in Costa Mesa, Calif., Feb. 8, 2008.

by when we're out in public and there's paparazzi around, I see, you know, who gets a little bit too excited or whatever. I can tell how those people are.

**AP: Because it's a show, it's possible that some contestants might be more interested in being on TV than being your best friend. How will you determine people's sincerity?**

at the public library near her house in New Rochelle. (Her husband, Bernard Hallote, was one floor below, returning some books.) If this interview is "mid-career," then Ozick could be described as coming out of a mid-career crisis.

She rarely appears on best-seller lists, but she has had an enviable career. Ozick has published more than a dozen highly praised books. She has won the National Book Critics Circle prize for her essay collection, "Quarrel & Quandary," and written one of the most anthologized stories of the past 30 years, "The Shawl," her terrifying tale about a mother and baby in a concentration camp.

But Ozick, who has also received a Rea Award for short story excellence, thinks as much about the books she didn't publish, and about the people who haven't read her.

A native of New York City, she recalls being haunted as a teenager by "The Beast in the Jungle," James' classic story of a man who spends his life waiting, in vain, for his life to begin. She was certain she would have the same fate.

"I think I feel a little more recognition now," she says, "I think most of my life I have not felt recognized."

Although by high school she possessed a "mature" prose style, her first novel, "Trust,"

**Hilton:** We're at MTV right now and just going over all the challenges and different things we're going to be putting the contestants through. I can't really tell because they're all top secret.

**AP: How has this experience been different from "The Simple Life" and your feature-film work?**

**Hilton:** This is like completely different. "The Simple Life" was more fish-out-of-water, Nicole and I just doing things we've never done.

**AP: What kinds of things appeal to you when you're looking at the videos on ParisBFF.com?**

**Hilton:** Just people who are fun, people who I know are going to be great on TV, people who have fun personalities, they're not shy, the people who tell their deepest secrets, people who are open to being honest and having a great time. That's what my show's about.

**AP: Talk about your role as executive producer.**

**Hilton:** Actually I was a producer of "The Simple Life" as well. Well, just being in control of everything and making all the decisions and just really being on top of everything, coming up with ideas. The casting process, with "The Simple Life" I didn't do all that, so this has been a lot of work but a lot of fun as well.

was not published until her late 30s. Before that, she worked on a Jamesian novel, "Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love," for seven stubborn years and abandoned it. She needed another seven years to complete "Trust." Meanwhile, such (slightly) younger writers as Philip Roth and John Updike had been in print since their mid-20s.

"I was boiling in envy," she says. "I couldn't get going. I couldn't get started."

"A lot of it was my own fault, which is I should have done what younger writers today do—go out in the world and write for magazines. Don't have this enclosed dream that you're going to be the old Henry James when you're young," she says.

Ozick sees herself as an innocent who worried for too long about the art at the expense of thinking about the business. In the past few years, she has switched publishers, from Alfred A. Knopf to Houghton Mifflin, agencies (from Raines and Raines to Melanie Jackson) and in 2004 went on her first book tour.

"First of all, I think I made a mistake in not taking that (sales) too seriously," she says. "I think it is serious to have good sales. As I learned belatedly, the more you sell, the more publishers pay attention to you, and it took me a very long time to figure that out because I never thought that way."

## Author Cynthia Ozick wins 2 lifetime achievement awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Author Cynthia Ozick is sitting for what she calls a "mid-career" interview, notable not only because she has just won two lifetime achievement awards, but because only recently did she accept that she has a "career."

"I felt it was the wrong word—it was a power word," Ozick, who turned 80 this month, says in her improbably girlish voice. "I had this notion, I still do, I guess, that the power is in the mind and in the writing."

Few authors are so self-evidently bookish, in appearance (bangs, large glasses), and in subject matter, whether passionate essays about such heroes as Henry James and Saul Bellow, or fictional works about authors such as "The Messiah of Stockholm" and the title story of her new collection, "Dictation."

She is wise to the drawing rooms of James and to the streets of Bellow, and her devotion—and contributions—to literary history have been certified by panels for two lifetime honors: The \$5,000 PEN/Malamud prize for short fiction, and the \$20,000 PEN/Nabokov award for "enduring originality and consummate craftsmanship." The awards were administered by separate entities, but they agreed to announce their winners at the same time this week after learning from The Associated Press that each had given a prize to Ozick.



AP

This photo released by Houghton Mifflin Company shows Cynthia Ozick, author of "Dictation".

"A prodigious imagination, a relentless intellect, an endless appetite for investigation and truth telling: All of these we have come to expect from her work," PEN/Nabokov judges Mary Gordon, Brian Boyd and Richard Price wrote in their citation.

"No American writer working today is as close in soul and style to Bernard Malamud as Cynthia Ozick," PEN/Malamud judge Alan Cheuse wrote, "and no American writer working today is more distinctive in everything she does on the page."

Peter Ho Davies, whose books include "Equal Love," was named a co-winner of the Malamud prize.

Ozick spoke recently in a second floor conference room

**AP: What else is going on with you?**

**Hilton:** I've just been traveling for a while and just launched my clothing line and my shoe line. I'm just getting ready for my movie—"Repo! The Genetic Opera" is coming out soon. So I'm just getting ready for that.

**AP: With all your projects, do you still have time for fun?**

**Hilton:** Not as much as I used to when I was younger. But I'm always traveling. I have a lot of businesses I run. Everything is so successful so it feels really great and I'd rather be working than doing anything else.

### BEST SELLERS

#### Nonfiction

**Beautiful Boy**, by David Sheff (Houghton Mifflin: \$24) A father's struggle with his son's meth addiction.

**The Bin Ladens**, by Steve Coll (Penguin: \$35) How the family of Osama bin Laden came to prominence and power in the Middle East.

**Home**, by Julie Andrews (Hyperion: \$26.95) The star of stage and screen tells of her early years, from 1935 to 1963, when she was cast in "Mary Poppins."

**The Secret**, by Rhonda Byrne (Beyond Words: \$23.95) Life's secrets distilled from oral tradition, literature, religion and philosophy.

**In Defense of Food**, by Michael Pollan (Penguin Press: \$21.95) A look at dietary sacred cows.

**Human Smoke**, by Nicholson Baker (Simon & Schuster: \$30) A revisionist look at the run-up to World War II.

**Mistaken Identity**, by Don and Susie Van Ryn and Newell, Colleen and Whitney Cerak (Howard Books: \$21.99) A young woman believed dead is in a coma.

**Stop Whining**, Start Living, by Laura Schlessinger (HarperCollins: \$24.95) Tips on getting out of a rut.

**Vindicated**, by Jose Canseco (Simon Spotlight: \$25.95) The former outfielder reveals more about steroid use in Major League Baseball.

**sTORI Telling**, by Tori Spelling (Simon Spotlight: \$24.95) The "90210" star tells all.

#### Fiction

**Unaccustomed Earth**, by Jhumpa Lahiri (Knopf: \$25) Stories of American-born children and their Bengali parents straddling cultures.

**Hollywood Crows** by Joseph Wambaugh (Little, Brown: \$26.99) Two cops become ensnared in a femme fatale's nasty divorce.

**Lush Life**, by Richard Price (Farrar, Straus & Giroux: \$26) The layered lives of victims and perpetrators are explored in the aftermath of a Manhattan shooting.

**The Appeal** by John Grisham (Doubleday: \$27.95) A billionaire tries to reverse a \$41-million jury verdict over toxic-waste dumping.

**Compulsion** by Jonathan Kellerman (Ballantine: \$27) A blood stain in a stolen luxury car sets Alex Delaware on the trail of a serial killer.

**Small Favor** by Jim Butcher (Roc: \$23.95) The wizard Harry Dresden searches for a Chicago mobster.

**Our Story Begins** by Tobias Wolff (Knopf: \$26.95) New short stories reflecting contemporary American life by the master of the form.

**Armageddon in Retrospect**, by Kurt Vonnegut (Putnam: \$24.95) A collection of the late author's unpublished short fiction.

**Remember Me?** by Sophie Kinsella (Dial Press: \$25) An ambitious woman finds her fortunes improved after a three-year bout of amnesia.

**Change of Heart**, by Jodi Picoult (Atria: \$26.95) A killer offers to donate his heart to his victim's sister.

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## Prosecutors seeking maximum sentence for Snipes in tax trial

**ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)**—There is a perception, federal prosecutors fear, that Wesley Snipes emerged victorious from years of IRS investigation and a highly publicized tax trial.

And there is some truth to that. Snipes was acquitted in February of five of eight counts—including felony fraud and conspiracy charges that each carried up to five years in prison. But the action star was convicted of three lesser charges of willful failure to file a return.

Seeking to make an example of a “notorious” and “inveterate” offender, prosecutors are asking for the maximum three years in prison and a fine of at least \$5 million when Snipes is sentenced Thursday in federal court in Ocala.

“This case cries out for the statutory maximum term of imprisonment, as well as a substantial fine, because of the seriousness of defendant Snipes’ crimes and because of the singular opportunity this case presents to deter tax crimes nationwide,” prosecutors wrote in an aggressive, 37-page memorandum to U.S. District Judge William Terrell Hodges.

Along with Snipes, the star of the “Blade” films and “White Men Can’t Jump,” co-defendants Douglas P. Rosile and Eddie Ray Kahn will be sentenced. Both were convicted of the felony fraud and conspiracy counts prosecutors couldn’t hang on the action star.

Prosecutors are asking Hodges to consider not only Snipes’ conviction, but also “relevant conduct” alleged in the government’s broader indictment and investigation.

In this case, that Snipes sought \$11 million in bogus tax returns, instructed all his employees to stop paying taxes, transferred millions to hidden foreign accounts and threatened government agents investigating him. It was unclear if the jury believed those parts of the government’s case at trial. Either way, the law allows their consideration at sentencing, and under a lesser burden of proof than before the jury.

Snipes’ defense filed its own lengthy sentencing memorandum Wednesday asking for probation, and not imprisonment. The filing included about three dozen letters attesting to Snipes’ good character from family, friends, employees and even celebrities Woody Harrelson and Denzel Washington.

“He is contrite, promises that he will never again break the law, and respectfully asks the Court to consider not just the jury verdict but also all the good that he has done in his life,” Snipes’ attorneys wrote.

Snipes was convicted of failing to file returns for 1999, 2000 and 2001, a period in which the government alleged he made at least \$13.8 million and would be liable for \$2.7 million in taxes. That amount alone exceeds the monetary guidelines calling for a 36-month sentence.

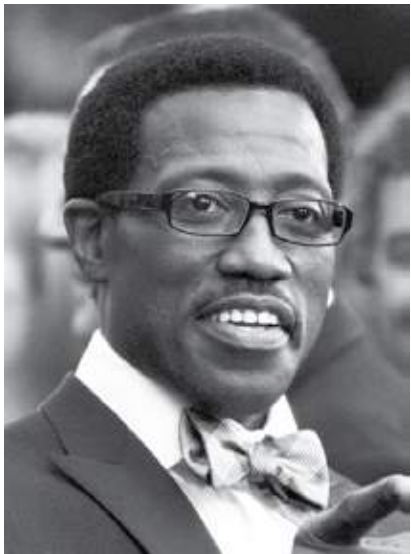
But Snipes’ attorneys say that tax table is “structurally flawed” when applied to misdemeanor cases, and he owed far less anyway. They say Snipes’ back taxes are fewer than \$400,000 for the years in question, a cutoff point for enhanced sentencing.

Snipes’ attorneys also said the government’s attempt make an example of him “approaches the type of vindictiveness prohibited by the due process clause.”

“Wesley Snipes is not a dangerous man who needs to be imprisoned to protect the public,” his attorneys wrote.

But prosecutors say Snipes is already being held by those in the fringe tax protest movement as proof that ordinary Americans don’t have to pay income tax. The point of criminal tax prosecutions, which are relatively rare, is to promote deterrence, the filing notes.

Further, Snipes has been a ceaseless nuisance to several tax-collecting entities—not just the IRS, but the states of California and Florida and country of Canada, according to the sentencing motion. And investigators are still convinced he’s hiding money—Snipes reported having only \$8,824 in a checking account and \$500 cash, the memo alleges, despite disclosed assets in excess of \$25 million.



AP

In this Feb. 24, 2008 file photo, Wesley Snipes arrives at the 80th Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

## TobyMac, Mark Hall, Casting Crowns win big at Dove Awards

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)**—TobyMac won artist of the year and Casting Crowns singer Mark Hall collected four trophies at Wednesday’s 39th annual Dove Awards, which celebrate the best in gospel music.

“Are you kidding? This is crazy, man. I thought I was Mr. Pre-Televised awards,” joked TobyMac, whose real name is Toby McKeehan. “God has been faithful time and again to surround me with people that sharpen me and that make me better.”

TobyMac also won artist of the year in 1996 as a member of dc Talk. His latest album, “Portable Sounds,” debuted at No. 10 on the Billboard Top 200 albums chart.

Besides artist of the year, he took home Dove Awards for rock/contemporary album for “Portable Sounds” and short-form video for his hit “Boomin.”

Hall, who was the night’s leading nominee with six, won song of the year and pop/contemporary recorded song of the year for “East to West,” which he co-wrote with Bernie Herms.

His participation on the multi-artist worship project “Glory Revealed” brought Hall individual honors for special event album of the year for the CD, as well as inspirational recorded song of the year for “By His Wounds.”

His band also had four nominations and won three: group of the year, best pop/contemporary album of the year for “The Altar and the Door” and pop/contemporary recorded song of the year for “East to West.”

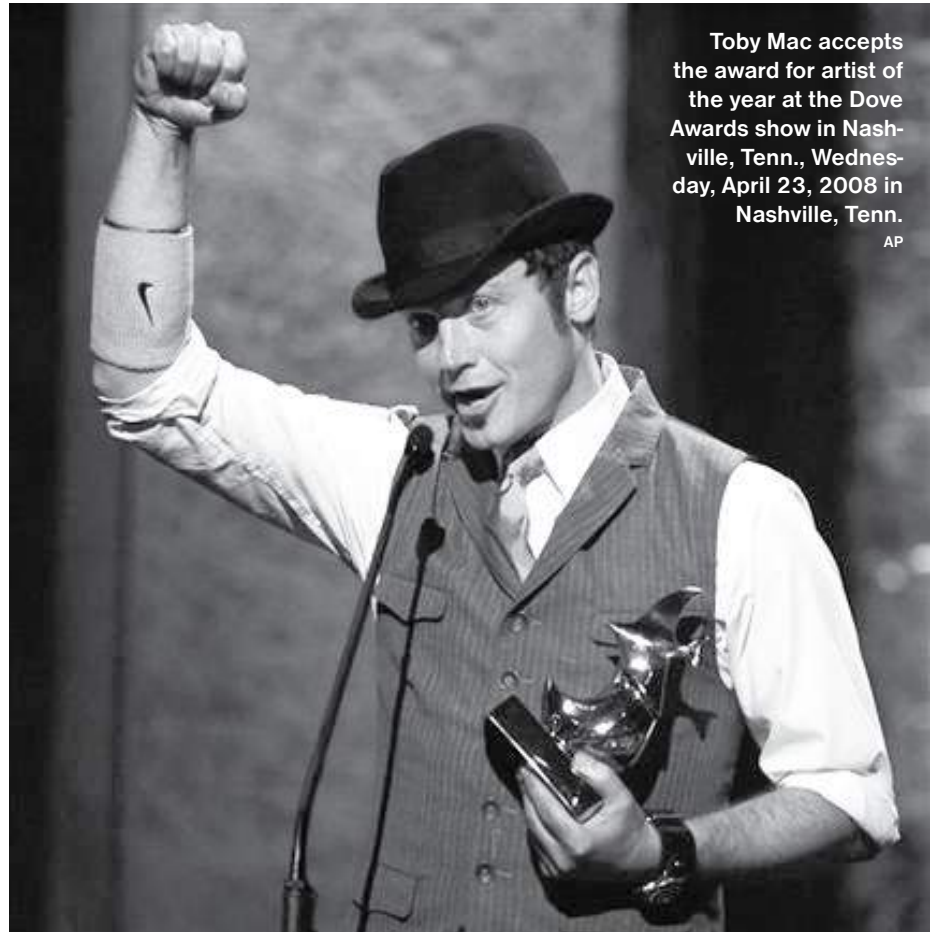
“I’m so thankful just to get to be part of the songs,” Hall said.

Chris Tomlin won male vocalist of the year and Natalie Grant was awarded female vocalist. Those were their third consecutive wins in their respective categories.

“This is quite amazing. Thank God for letting me sing and give a voice to people around the world to worship him,” Tomlin said. “This is unbelievable that God would continue to use us all like this, and I’m very, very grateful.”

Grant, who gave a soulful performance of “Bring It All Together” with country star Wynonna Judd, said she was thankful for the freedom to express herself freely.

“I think we forget often what a privilege



Toby Mac accepts the award for artist of the year at the Dove Awards show in Nashville, Tenn., Wednesday, April 23, 2008 in Nashville, Tenn. AP

it is to be in a country where we can record music that boldly proclaims our passion for Jesus Christ. What a gift,” Grant said.

Brandon Heath won new artist of the year. Heath’s “I’m Not Who I Was,” a song about forgiveness that he says was inspired by an old photograph of someone he hadn’t seen in a while, was nominated for song of the year.

Cindy Morgan won the songwriter of the year award—her eighth Dove trophy—and Ricky Skaggs and the Whites collected bluegrass recorded song for “Salt of the Earth.”

“I think of all things this probably means the most to me because all those years ago I didn’t set out to be a singer, just a songwriter,” said Morgan, who wrote “How You Live (Turn Up the Music)” for Point of Grace. Morgan was named new artist of the year 15 years ago.

The contemporary gospel album award went to Israel & New Breed for “A Deeper Level.”

“My first ministry is not what you see on stage. It’s the church I pastor. It’s got four members—my wife and my three kids,” said the group’s singer-songwriter Israel Houghton.

The evening’s performers included “American Idol” alum Phil Stacey, Chris Sligh and Mandisa with Amy Grant in a musical tribute to Michael W. Smith.

Switchfoot played “This is Home,” a song from the soundtrack of the upcoming film “The Chronicles of Namia: Prince Caspian.”

The Doves closed with a salute to the Grand Ole Opry stage, where the show was held. Charlie Daniels led the house through a rousing version of the hymn “I’ll Fly Away.”

The Gospel Music Association’s Dove Awards were broadcast live on XM Satellite radio and on the Gospel Music Channel. In past years the awards were syndicated and shown later on tape.

## Yoko Ono sues in NY over song in movie challenging evolution

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Yoko Ono is suing the producers of a movie that challenges the concept of Darwinian evolution, saying they used the song “Imagine” without her permission and led the blogosphere to accuse her of “selling out.”

In a lawsuit filed in federal court in Manhattan, Ono accuses the producers of “Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed” of suggesting to viewers that those who guard John Lennon’s legacy somehow authorized or sponsored the film.

The producers of the film, which features Ben Stein challenging Darwinian theories that prevail in academic circles and suggesting that life could have emerged through intelligent design, said they used only “a very small portion of the song.”

“Based on the fair use doctrine, news commentators and film documentarians regularly use material in the same way we do,” Premise Media said in a statement. “Unbiased view-



AP

In this Dec. 9, 2002 file photo, Yoko Ono smiles in front of a famous photo of her and her husband, the late John Lennon, during a news conference in Saitama, Japan.

ers of the film will see that the ‘Imagine’ clip was used as part of a social commentary in the exercise of free speech and freedom of inquiry.”

Ono’s lawsuit claims the producers did not ask for permission either because they knew

they couldn’t get it or because they did not want to pay for the rights. It objects to the way “Imagine” is listed in the film’s credits, saying it suggested to members of the news media and others that the song’s use had been approved.

“Internet ‘bloggers’ immediately began accusing Mrs. Lennon of ‘selling out’ by licensing the song to defendants,” says the complaint, filed this week.

The lawsuit calls “Imagine” Lennon’s signature song, saying it “has become closely associated with and is synonymous with John Lennon.”

The complaint, which also names other firms involved with the movie, asks the court to stop the filmmakers from distributing, selling and promoting the movie, and it seeks financial damages. It was filed on behalf of Ono, Lennon’s sons Sean and Julian, and EMI Blackwood Music Inc.

“Expelled” earned the No. 10 spot at the box office this weekend, bringing in nearly \$3 million in its first weekend in wide release. Stein, an actor, quiz show host and former speech writer for Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, has been visiting some state capitals to screen the movie for lawmakers.



# 'Idol' boots another finalist

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Carly Smithson lost another chance to be a superstar.

Smithson, the 24-year-old Irish bartender from San Diego, was the latest cast-off on "American Idol" as the field was narrowed to five finalists during Wednesday's results show.

Smithson had won rave reviews from judges—but apparently not votes from viewers—after performing "Superstar" from "Jesus Christ Superstar" on Tuesday's Andrew Lloyd Webber-themed performance show.

Judge Randy Jackson told host Ryan Seacrest: "It must be a bit of a popularity week in the vote."

Controversy had swirled around Smithson at the start of the seventh "Idol" season because of her previous experience in the music industry. In 2001, MCA Records released Smithson's debut "Ultimate High," which flopped on the charts.

Syesha Mercado, who sang "One Rock 'n' Roll Too Many" from "Starlight Express," joined Smith in the bottom two on Wednesday's results show.



Brooke White was visibly shocked she wasn't one of the show's lowest vote-getters.

White caused a stir Tuesday when she stopped singing a few seconds into "You Must Love Me" from "Evita" and asked "Idol" music director Ricky Minor to start over, a first for the Fox singing competition. Jackson and Simon Cowell praised White's decision to reboot, but Paula Abdul was upset about the do-over.

"You must never start and stop," Abdul told White.

During the results show, Seacrest announced the top 10 finalists will visit 49 cities during the next "Idol" summer tour.

President Bush and first lady Laura Bush also appeared in a taped message to announce the "Idol Gives Back" charity event had raised more than \$65 million for underprivileged children.

In this March 6, 2008 file photo, contestant Carly Smithson attends the "American Idol" annual Top 12 Party in West Hollywood, Calif.

## Kanye West and Jay-Z party together

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It was boy's night out for Kanye West and Jay-Z.

The pair partied at the nightclub Goa for West's official after-party following his "Glow in the Dark" tour performance at the Nokia Theatre L.A. Live. Famous guests such as Paris Hilton, Benji Madden, Rob Kardashian and Adrienne Bailon had already come and gone by the time the rappers showed up around 1 a.m.

A solo Jay-Z—clad in a hood, sunglasses and no wedding ring—arrived first and bypassed the red carpet. West entered the club about 10 minutes later and joined his friend in a center booth overlooking the dance floor. West smiled and greeted partygoers while clutching a bottle of Absolut 100 vodka, the event's sponsor.

West and his fashion designer fiancée Alexis



Phifer recently broke off their engagement, according to a report posted Monday on People.com. West and Phifer have been dating on and off since 2002. Phone calls and e-mails seeking comment from Phifer and Gabe Tesoriero, publicist for the 30-year-old rapper, about the breakup were not immediately returned Tuesday.

Several other celebrities were in attendance at the afterparty Tuesday.

Jamie Foxx commanded a corner booth and entertained a bevy of beautiful women. "Friday Night Lights" stars Scott Porter and Minka Kelly grooved to the music. Nickelodeon host Quddus spent most of the night on the dance floor. And recent "American Idol" cast-off Michael Johns was stationed at a quiet Moroccan-themed bar away from the hubbub with a friend.

## Naomi Campbell to appear in 'Ugly Betty' season finale

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Naomi Campbell is getting "Ugly."

The supermodel will appear in ABC's "Ugly Betty," according to actress Becki Newton. A representative for ABC confirmed Wednesday that Campbell would play herself in the second season finale.

"She's going to be in our last episode, which is exciting," Newton told The Associated Press at the launch party for the new Sunglass Hut store design. "I've personally requested that I don't stand next to her because Amanda would not like to be seen with such a tall, pretty person."

Newtown, who stars as sassy receptionist Amanda Sommers on "Ugly Betty," isn't sure if she'll actually have scenes with the 37-year-old supermodel, who was arrested earlier this month on suspicion of assaulting an officer after police were called to a disturbance at Heathrow Airport in London.

Campbell was originally announced as a guest star last year but didn't appear in the first season or the beginning of the sec-

ond season, which was cut short because of the writers' strike. Other "Ugly Betty" guest stars have included Victoria Beckham and Gene Simmons, who played himself and was revealed to be Amanda's father. Newton said Simmons will reprise his role in an upcoming episode.

ABC had previously announced the series will return for a third season.



In this April 21, 2008, file photo, model Naomi Campbell arrives at Lincoln Center in New York.

## Star Jones files for divorce

NEW YORK (AP)—Three years after tying the knot in a spectacular, over-the-top affair that caused some backlash, Star Jones has decided to end her marriage to banker Al Reynolds.

The 46-year-old TV personality quietly filed divorce papers March 26 in New York Supreme Court in Manhattan. The records are sealed, syndicated entertainment show "Entertainment Tonight" reported Wednesday.

But a representative for SHADOW PR, which represents Jones, confirmed to The Associated Press that she is seeking to end the union.

In a statement to "Entertainment Tonight," Jones said: "Several years ago I made an error in judgment by inviting the media into the most intimate area of my life. A month ago I filed for divorce.

"The dissolution of a marriage is a difficult time in anyone's life that requires privacy with one's thoughts. I have committed myself to handling this situation with dignity and grace and look forward to emerging from this period as a stronger and wiser woman."

It's not the approach Jones took when she threw her uber-lavish, Park Avenue wedding to Reynolds in November 2004. She received criticism for endlessly discussing the wedding—and plugging its sponsors—as a co-host on



In this April 28, 2006 file photo, Star Jones Reynolds and her husband Al Reynolds arrive for the 33rd Annual Daytime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles.

ABC's "The View." The negative reaction to the affair, which was attended by guests ranging from Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton to Spike Lee, was cited by Barbara Walters as a reason

why Jones' contract wasn't renewed by ABC's "The View" in 2006.

The former prosecutor recently hosted a talk show on truTV.





AP  
In this image released by Handmade Films, Jordana Beatty, 9, is shown.

## Aussie actress snags lead role in 'Eloise in Paris'

NEW YORK (AP)—Eloise down under.

The makers of the film adaptation of "Eloise in Paris" searched four continents and auditioned more than 4,000 girls to portray the spunky heroine of the children's classic.

The winner: 9-year-old Jordana Beatty.

The Aussie actress, who began her show biz career at age 4, will play the title role in "Eloise in Paris," producer HandMade Films announced Wednesday.

"Jordana is a unique combination of funny, feisty, sweet and soulful ... all the qualities that were so much the essence of Kay Thompson's iconic character," said director Charles Shyer, who also co-wrote the film.

The movie is based on the 1957 best seller by Thompson about a precocious 6-year-old girl—and resident of The Plaza Hotel in New York City—who travels to the City of Light. Other books include "Eloise at Christmastime" and "Eloise in Moscow."

HandMade Films said it hopes to spin off a film franchise from the Eloise character, whose "Nanny" will be played by Uma Thurman.

# Megan Fox is FHM's sexiest woman

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Megan Fox is the sexiest woman in the world—at least according to FHM magazine.

The "Transformers" co-star tops FHM's annual 100 Sexiest Women in the World poll of FHM readers. The 21-year-old model-actress beat out the likes of Angelina Jolie (No. 12), Rihanna (No. 14), Kim Kardashian (No. 17), Paris Hilton (No. 77) and last year's champion, Jessica Alba (No. 3).

Fox debuted on the annual list in 2006 at No. 68 and ranked at No. 65 in 2007. Joining her in the top 10 this year are—in descending order—Jessica Biel, Alba, Elisha Cuthbert, Scarlett Johansson, Emmanuelle Chriqui, Hilary Duff, Tricia Helfer, Blake Lively and Kate Beckinsale. Britney Spears came in last place at No. 100.

The women from MTV's "The Hills" duke it out on the list with Heidi Montag (No. 44) beating out Audrina Patridge (No. 80) and Lauren Conrad (No. 95). Current "Dancing with the Stars" contestant Shannon Elizabeth (No. 46) returned to the ranking after being absent last year, joining professional dancers Cheryl Burke (No. 40) and Karina Smirnoff (No. 78).

FHM said nearly 9 million votes were cast for the 14th edition of the annual poll.



AP  
In this Sept. 9, 2007 file photo, Megan Fox arrives at the MTV Video Music Awards at the Palms Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

## Tejano singer Emilio begins rehab

HOUSTON (AP)—Grammy-winning Tejano singer Emilio Navaira is starting his rehabilitation treatment after being severely injured in a bus crash a month ago.

Dr. Alex Valadka at Memorial Hermann hospital in Houston said Wednesday that it was "a major mile-



Navaira

stone" for the 45-year-old singer.

Navaira was behind the wheel of his tour bus March 23 when it slammed into a collection of freeway barrels in suburban Houston. He was thrown through the windshield.

Navaira, known to fans

simply as Emilio, has released more than a dozen albums with his band. He won a Grammy for best Tejano album in 2003 with "Acuerdate."

Valadka said Navaira still has "a long way to go" after his move to the hospital's rehabilitation center. The hospital is also where Buffalo Bills tight end Kevin Everett recovered after becoming paralyzed during a game last year.

## Eric Mabiús, wife expecting second child



NEW YORK (AP)—Eric Mabiús, co-star of ABC's "Ugly Betty," says he and his wife, interior designer Ivy Sherman, are expecting their second child.

Mabiús, who portrays playboy editor Daniel Meade on the comedy, told The Associated Press that Sherman surprised him with the news on the show's set last week.

"We don't know if it's a boy or a girl yet," Mabiús said Wednesday. The couple have a 1-year-old son.

Mabiús said Sherman was "very frustrated" that she hadn't gotten pregnant before the Hollywood writers strike ended and thought that since "Ugly Betty" had resumed production, they'd have to wait until the summer break.

"I proved her wrong," he said, grinning.

Mabiús, 37, has also appeared in the TV series "The L Word," "The O.C." and "Eyes."

In this March 20, 2008 file photo, actor Eric Mabiús, left, from ABC's "Ugly Betty" and his wife Ivy Sherman attend the Details magazine Party in Beverly Hills, Calif.

## Sister's cruel taunts draw tears from adopted daughter

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

DEAR ABBY: I'm 12 and adopted. I have always known and have never felt less loved because of it. My mom always said that when you're adopted, you know that you are wanted and loved because nobody gets adopted by accident.

My 14-year-old sister, "Melissa," is our parents' natural child. We were always close, but lately she has decided to be mean to me and tries to hurt me by telling me that I'm not her "real" sister and our parents aren't my "real" parents. This hurts very much. If I cry, she thinks it's funny. She never says it in front of our parents—she wouldn't dare.

Melissa used to tease me when we were alone in our room, but now she does it in front of her friends, who also laugh at me when I get upset and cry. Melissa would be in big trouble if I told Mom, but I'm afraid it will make her even meaner. I don't want to get her in trouble because, in spite of this, I still love her. I just want her to stop being mean and start treating me like her real sister again. Abby, what should I do?

—REAL SISTER IN TACOMA

DEAR REAL SISTER: Clip this and show it to "Miss Melissa." I have news for her. Parents who raise a child ARE "real" mothers and fathers. And you are as "real" a sister as Melissa is likely to get.

Her behavior is cruel, insensitive and immature. She's doing it because you have allowed her to get away with it. Give your sister one warning. Tell her that if she repeats that nonsense again, you will tell your "real" mother, who also happens to be HER mother. And if she's foolish enough to try it—follow through.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm in my 20s and work as a cashier in a convenience store. One of my regulars recently won the lottery.

I am newly married and have a 7-month-old. We live with my in-laws, and we're dying to get our own place.

The lottery winner is somewhat good-looking, but about 20 years older than I am. Abby, he propositioned me—if you know what I mean. He offered a large sum of money, which would help my family get our own place.

I'm confused. What do I do?

—DESPERATELY SEEKING MY OWN PLACE IN TEXAS

DEAR DESPERATELY SEEKING: You're not confused; your customer is. He may have won the lottery, but he's a loser. You are a cashier, not a prostitute. Tell him there are some things money can't buy—and one of them is YOU.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I participate in a depression forum. One question comes up repeatedly, and I have yet to find a decent answer.

What is the best way to answer someone who inquires about a self-inflicted scar? And are there ways to hide scars besides wearing long sleeves or pants all the time? Should we even feel that we have to hide them?

—GETTING BEYOND MY PAST IN HONOLULU

DEAR GETTING BEYOND: Because over the years I have heard from (and about) young people who have tried to cope with severe depression by cutting themselves instead of seeking the counseling they need, I am sure that question comes up with some frequency. The problem with "cover-ups" is sooner or later—like scars—the truth is exposed.

The honest answer to someone you trust is simply to tell the truth. For others, make light of the question ("Oh, those darn rose bushes ...") and steer the conversation to another subject.

■ ■ ■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■ ■ ■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

## UC Santa Cruz slated to get archives of Grateful Dead

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Dancing bears, meet the Banana Slugs.

The surviving members of the Grateful Dead are turning over the rock band's archives to the University of

California at Santa Cruz. The archive will hold the band's correspondence and other memorabilia, but not its recordings, longtime band spokesman Dennis McNally said Wednesday.

Ex-Dead guitarist Bob Weir and drummer Mickey Hart will announce a partnership with the university Thursday. The announcement will take place at San Francisco's Fillmore Auditorium, where many

of the band's legendary shows were held.

A spokesman for UC Santa Cruz would not comment on the details of the deal ahead of Thursday's planned announcement.



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

LOOK AT THIS STUPID MODEL. IT LOOKS AWFUL!

OUR PLANE DOESN'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE THE PICTURE ON THE BOX. MAYBE WE CAN FIX IT WHEN WE PAINT IT.

I CAN'T PAINT IT LIKE THIS. LOOK HOW GOOD THEY DID THIS!

HOW'D THEY PAINT EYEBROWS ON A PILOT THAT'S LESS THAN AN INCH TALL??

I THINK THAT'S A REAL JET SUPERIMPOSED ON A PLASTIC STAND.

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

JON, WHY DON'T YOU ORDER US A PIZZA?

A SMALL, PLAIN CHEESE PIZZA

YOU'RE NEW HERE, AREN'T YOU?

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

I ATE A SLICE ON THE WAY HERE IN LIEU OF A TIP.

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

LET'S HEAR SOME CHATTER OUT THERE, ELVIN!

HEY, HOW'S THE FAMILY? NICE WEATHER WE'RE HAVING. BOY, THE MOSQUITOES ARE BAD THIS YEAR...

NO CHIT-CHATTER!!

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

44 Pastime for Prince Charles

45 "I, Robot" author

47 Furnish

49 Take as one's own

52 Falsehood

53 Russian spacecraft

54 Nubs

55 Ar

56 Vanna's cohort

57 Available

DOWN

1 Light application

2 Blunder

3 Conditional stipulation

4 Seize

5 Zoo

6 Show up

7 String

8 Seesaw

9 Place

10 Basketball challenge game

11 Fireplace tidbit

17 Having vessels, like a leaf

19 "— Were the Days"

21 Billboards

22 Encountered

23 "Eureka!"

24 Passenger

25 Dilbert's place

27 Welles or Bean

29 Summer ermines

31 Reservation residence

35 Frail

37 Sketch

38 Tweak

41 TV lawyer Stone

43 Raw rock

24 Sturgeon eggs

26 Chess master

28 Old writing implements

30 Asian holiday

32 University officer

33 Listener

34 Ram's fan?

36 Abandon

38 Tell target

39 Day at the movies?

40 Fugard's "A Lesson From —"

42 Adult insect

45 Sarah McLachlan song

46 Valhalla VIP

48 Urchin

50 Bake sale org.

51 Recipe meas.

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-25

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Lee, 38; Renee Zellweger, 39; Hank Azaria, 44; Al Pacino, 68

Happy Birthday: This can turn into a celebratory year for you if you follow instructions, your instincts and your goals. There is much to gain personally, professionally and financially. Travel will bring you experience and education. You have a host of high cycles moving your way, so say yes and take action. Your numbers are 5, 15, 22, 35, 39, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't give in to force or to anyone who is using emotional blackmail to get you to do something questionable. Don't let love stand in the way of your professional advancement. Hard work will pay off. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can make your mark by what you do and say. You will turn heads, capture attention and impress the people you look up to. You will make gains that will shape the way things will unfold for you in the future. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may find yourself dealing with serious matters today but that's OK. If you try to evade issues, you will find yourself in trouble. Take a responsible look at what needs to be done. Money matters must be cleared up. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are sitting in a much better position than you realize. Take action and you will look like a hero. Money can be made through unusual means. Don't be afraid of change. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): If you want something, go after it wholeheartedly or you won't succeed. Leaving anything incomplete will anger or upset those with whom you have to deal. Love issues may seem pressing but, if you neglect your work, you will be much worse off. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take what's yours and show everyone who's boss. You will be sitting in a good position with plenty of knowledge to back you up, regardless of what anyone throws your way. Share your thoughts and mingle with ambitious people. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be making wrong moves and upsetting the people you lean on for support, causing your own dilemmas if you overreact, overspend and overindulge. Think before you act or you will have to answer to someone you have always looked up to. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look at what you have already accomplished and it will give you the strength to move forward with the next stage. Play to win. Being too nice won't necessarily help you achieve your dreams, hopes and wishes. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone may question your integrity. Before fighting back, check your motives. Not everything will run smoothly. Love is on the rise but, if you flirt with too many, you are likely to meet with trouble. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Fix up your place and invite people over. You will make a great impression if you

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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share your space with others who can appreciate what you have and how hard you have worked to acquire your style and confidence. You are up for another advancement or raise. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your ability to see what's wrong and lend a helping hand will spark an interest in someone you've wanted to become closer to. Giving back will help boost your confidence and maneuver you into a circle you were not able to break into in the past. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't get all emotional if things don't fall into place. Instead, be responsible and professional and you will accomplish your goals. A passionate evening can lead to an exciting weekend that will bring all sorts of perks with it. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are steadfast and stable. You are sensitive but practical, creative but precise and pragmatic. You are open-minded but not easily sold.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 4/25

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WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FLAKES Solution: 8 letters

NSDSHCTARCSCOFAR  
MOISTUREELAEEREC  
ELTSASOSBMURCYFR  
TIETPNNEWOODAREY  
ADCRORREVDLEGPS  
LTEIKCOOEAEERAWT  
GNIKCARCCZARAOA  
SIPIONOIELCFONL  
TAINRRRTDSELRSL  
FPHGATAKURSHEDI  
AFCTERALACITUAN  
RFIMAEETAILOFXE  
COMPRESSSELRODO  
NYEBSIXSIDEDGED  
SSPORDEFINITION

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Break, Cereal, Chip, Compress, Corn, Cotton, Cracking, Crafts, Crumbs, Crystalline, Decoration, Definition, Drop, Edged, Exfoliate, Freeze, Larger, Layer, Metal, Moisture, Nautical, Odorless, Paint, Piece, Process, Remove, Rock, Scrap, Scratch, Separate, Shed, Six-Sided, Snow, Sofa, Solid, Stone, Striking, Symmetrical, Tool, Wafer, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Enroll

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just \$4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Press Syndicate. Includes \$5 postage for the first book order, \$1 per book for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free, 1-800-255-6734, ext. 6588. Sorry, no online orders for this special offer.



# CLASSIFIED ADS



## FOR SALE

1-bedroom/build-in 20ft container wall to wall carpet w/ 12BTU split-type aircon. \$3,500 or best offer/call Rose-233-1984, 8am-6pm

Retail store equipments & inventories. More than enough to open new business. All for \$5,500/or best offer-233-1984

## FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water \$210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Apartment Room for Rent 2 bed room \$230.00, Koblerville. Contact: 288-0728.

## GARAGE SALE

April 26 (Sat), 7:30am—. Place: Across the street from PIC. PIC employees got together to bring you this sale, everything must go! All sales will be forwarded to the Marianas March Against Cancer Fund.

WHATZIT Solution:  
All in the game

## FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

2 Bedroom Duplex House for Rent. As Lito / \$200.00/month Call @ 233-0327

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**1 AUTO PAINTER (WF 0041)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: medical & workers compensation provided by employer. Contact: Virginia R. Cabrera dba Gene Auto Body Repair Shop @288-0387.

**1 ACCOUNTANT (WF 0042)**  
Salary:\$3.05-\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Housing not provided; food not provided; workman's compensation & medical. Contact: Salvador B. Arceo Jr. dba @Hair.comb @233-4247.

**NEW Rattan Furniture FOR SALE**  
Expensive material  
Call 789-1625

## Computer Repair

**Only \$20 WE ALSO FIXED LOPTAP & USED PARTS**  
Minor Problem  
**233-5641**  
Open 7 Day a Week 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

## AMIGO AQUATIC SPORTS

**LOOKING FOR SALES REPRESENTATIVE**  
Call 233-0325  
SUBMIT RESUME

# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

# FOOTBALL

Find today's solution in this section

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	<b>\$25</b>
• 5-Liner	<b>\$35</b>
• 3-Liner with picture	<b>\$45</b>
• 5-Liner with picture	<b>\$55</b>

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

<b>1st position</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>2nd position</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>Succeeding positions</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:

- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

## The Saipan Tribune now offers Classified Ads Super Saver Package

for Print and Online Editions

A complete 7-day run for car sales, employment, garage sales, apartment rentals, announcements, lost and found, business services, and more...

3-LINER AD  
**\$25**

3-LINER AD  
W/ PHOTO  
**\$45**

5-LINER AD  
**\$35**

5-LINER AD  
W/ PHOTO  
**\$55**

**Get results. Advertise now!**

**Call now at 235-2769**  
for more details.

Hafa Adai!  
**Saipan Tribune**  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER





# Pistons even series with Game 2 rout of 76ers



**AUBURN HILLS, Mich.** (AP)—Rasheed Wallace had another good game against the Philadelphia 76ers.

Unlike the series opener, a few Detroit Pistons starters helped him out.

Wallace scored 11 of his 16 points in the first quarter and Detroit went on to beat Philadelphia 105-88 in Game 2 on Wednesday night to even the first-round series.

The Pistons had four scorers in double figures as it took a 17-point halftime lead, while the 76ers had only Andre Miller, who scored 11 of his 14 points in the first half.

In their 90-86 Game 1 loss, the Pistons blew a 15-point lead midway through the third quarter.

Detroit refused to let the young Sixers rally again.

The Pistons seemed to play with a sense of urgency, swarming the Sixers on defense and relentlessly going after offensive rebounds for second and third chances.

Chauncey Billups made a 3-pointer early in the third—his first field goal—and made another from beyond the arc later in the quarter to put Detroit ahead 73-47.

The Pistons didn't have any trouble holding onto the lead.

Game 3 is Friday night in Philadelphia.

In Sunday's loss, Wallace had 24 points, nine rebounds and seven blocks.

His fellow starters combined to make less than one-third of their shots and missed key free throws.

Wallace and Co. put together a balanced attack in Game 2.

Each of the starters shot at least 50 percent through three quarters and four of them had 16 points, then all but Richard Hamilton rested in the fourth.

Hamilton finished with 20 points, Tayshaun Prince and Antonio McDyeys both added 16 and rookie Rodney

Stuckey had 12 after being held scoreless in his playoff debut.

Philadelphia reserves Louis Williams (17), Reggie Evans (13) and Rodney Carney (11) each scored career playoff highs.

Sixers star Andre Iguodala got off to another rough start. Unlike Game 1, he didn't bounce back. Iguodala was scoreless in the first half on 0-for-7 shooting and finished with four points after averaging 20 in the regular season and scoring 16 Sunday.

Miller was the only Philadelphia starter who played well when the

game was close.

Samuel Dalembert had three points—giving him eight in the series—Thaddeus Young scored 11 and Willie Green added six points after setting a career playoff high with 17 in the opener.

After three quarters, Philadelphia's four reserves were outscoring its starters 41-34 despite getting a lot less playing time.

## Celtics 96, Hawks 77

At Boston, Kevin Garnett had 19 points and 10 rebounds, and Rajon Rondo added 12 points, eight assists and six rebounds

to lead Boston to a victory over Atlanta and a 2-0 lead in the first-round series.

Paul Pierce returned from a first-quarter knockdown to score 14 points, and Kendrick Perkins added eight points and nine rebounds for the Celtics.

Josh Smith, who helped take Pierce down and appeared to land on him and roll over his head, had 13 points and eight rebounds for Atlanta. But it was Mike Bibby, who called the locals fair-weather fans during the week, who drew the ire of the sold-out Boston Garden crowd.

Bibby was booed at every touch from the opening introductions. As he sat on the bench in the fourth quarter and the game out of reach, the fans chanted "Where is Bibby?" and "Rondo's better." In the first two games of the series combined, Bibby is 4-for-17 from the field with two assists.

Game 3 is on Saturday in Atlanta.

## Lakers 122, Nuggets 107

At Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant had 49 points and 10 assists, and Los Angeles beat Denver to take a 2-0 lead in their first-round playoff series.

Games 3 and 4 will be in Denver on Saturday and Monday night.

Bryant, who was 18-for-27 from the field, scored 20 points in the first quarter to get the Lakers off to

a fast start, and 19 over the last seven minutes to keep them safely ahead. He left with 2:02 remaining to chants of "MVP, MVP" from the capacity crowd at Staples Center.

Bryant was replaced by Coby Karl, the son of Denver coach George Karl. It was the first time in NBA playoff history that a father has coached against his son.

Pau Gasol and Luke Walton both scored 18 points for the Lakers.

Allen Iverson had 31 points and six assists to lead the Nuggets.

## NBA BRIEFS

### Texas' Augustin, Abrams declare for NBA draft

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—D.J. Augustin is turning pro, and Texas teammate A.J. Abrams may be headed with him. The Longhorns lost their All-America point guard Wednesday when Augustin announced he would skip his final two seasons at Texas and enter the NBA draft, where he is widely considered a first-round pick. "I have dreamed of playing in the NBA since I was a little boy, and I am ready to start living this dream," Augustin said. Augustin, who averaged 19.2 points and 5.8 assists as a sophomore, has not hired an agent. That leaves him the option to change his mind before the June 26 draft, though there is no apparent indication that he would do so. Abrams, a junior, also declared himself eligible Wednesday for the draft. The 5-foot-11 guard has also not hired an agent. "Right now, I have the opportunity to test the waters to see where I stand," Abrams said. "If I'm comfortable with where I feel I'll be drafted, I'll stay in the draft. If not, I'll be back for my senior year." Augustin won the Bob Cousy Award as college basketball's top point guard. Abrams averaged 16.5 points a game and led Texas in 3-pointers with 118 last season. Augustin joins an impressive lineup of former Longhorns who departed early for the NBA in recent years: T.J. Ford, Daniel Gibson, LaMarcus Aldridge, P.J. Tucker and Kevin Durant all have bolted since 2003, depleting the program of its most talented players.

### Memphis' Anderson, Dozier join teammates in NBA draft

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—The Memphis Tigers' entire starting lineup last season has declared for the NBA draft now that juniors Antonio Anderson and Robert Dozier have become the last from the 2008 NCAA runner-up to announce. The school announced Wednesday that neither Anderson and Dozier is expected to sign with an agent, leaving the possibility of returning for their senior season open. They joined Derrick Rose and Chris Douglas-Roberts as early entries along with senior center Joey Dorsey. With a deep pool of underclassmen entering the draft, Anderson and Dozier are unlikely to get drafted with their teammates. But Memphis coach John Calipari says Anderson and Dozier will be able to work out for NBA teams, participate in pre-draft camp and get feedback from scouts. "Both Antonio and Robert approached me about putting their names in the NBA draft, and I support them in their decision," Calipari said in a statement. "This is good for them because they can work out for teams and see where they stand and find out about their strengths and weaknesses."

# Mario Chalmers opts to test NBA waters

**LAWRENCE, Kan.** (AP)—Miracle Mario wants to see where he stands in the NBA.

Kansas star Mario Chalmers declared himself eligible for the NBA draft on Wednesday, deciding to not sign with an agent to leave open the possibility of a return to the national champion Jayhawks.

The junior guard says he'll come out only if it looks like he'll be picked in the first round of the June 26 draft. If not—he's currently projected to go between pick Nos. 25-35—Chalmers will return to Kansas, the team he helped win its third national championship with one of the biggest shots in NCAA tournament history.

"I looked at the pros and cons of all three options and I don't think hiring an

agent right now would be the best fit for me right now personally just because I'm not projected that high in the draft," Chalmers said. "It's just great that I have the opportunity to come back if I can and the opportunity to go if I can. I think it's a win-win situation."

Rangy and athletic, Chalmers was one of the leaders in Kansas' run to its first national championship in 20 years, teaming with Brandon Rush, Russell Robinson and Sherron Collins to form one of the nation's best backcourts.

A superb on-the-ball defender, Chalmers led the Jayhawks with 97 steals and was just as good on the offensive end, tying Darrell Arthur for second in scoring with 12.8 points. He also had a knack for hitting big shots, none bigger than his last-second 3-pointer that sent

the national championship game into overtime.

The key question, as far as the NBA draft goes, is whether Chalmers can play point guard.

Because of the Jayhawks' bevy of talented guards, Chalmers spent most of his three years in Lawrence at shooting guard, allowing Robinson and Collins to handle the point. Though he led the Jayhawks in assists at 4.3 per game, he hasn't played point guard since high school, a concern for some NBA teams, particularly because he lacks the size at 6-foot-1, 190 pounds to play shooting guard at the next level.

But Kansas coach Bill Self believes it won't be an issue once Chalmers starts to prove himself during predraft workouts.

"I think he's a first-round player," Self



Detroit Pistons' Jason Maxiell dunks over Philadelphia 76ers' Jason Smith in the fourth quarter of Game 2 of their NBA basketball playoff series in Auburn Hills, Mich., Wednesday, April 23, 2008.



# Cabrera, Jones star in Tigers' win over Rangers



**D E -  
T R O I T**  
(A P) —  
M i g u e l

Cabrera hit a three-run home run and Carlos Guillen had three of his five RBIs in an 11-run sixth inning, helping the Detroit Tigers rout the Texas Rangers 19-6 in the American League on Wednesday.

Jacque Jones also homered as Detroit scored its most runs this season and handed Texas its sixth straight loss. The Tigers led 7-6 going into the sixth, when they had their biggest inning since scoring 11 in the sixth inning on April 23, 2004, against Cleveland.

Rangers pitchers walked 10 and hit two batters.

Both starters were ineffective: The Tigers' Kenny Rogers allowed six runs and nine hits in 3 1-3 innings, and the Rangers' Luis Mendoza gave up five runs in 1 2-3 innings.

## Angels 6, Red Sox 4

At Boston, Casey Kotchman's solo homer put Los Angeles ahead in the sixth, Gary Matthews Jr. hit two solo homers of his own and the Angels snapped Boston's six-game winning streak.

Kotchman hit his sixth of the season off Craig Hansen (0-1), who was recalled before the game. Matthews hit solo shots in the first and fifth off emergency starter Jon Lester, giving him four homers for the season and 100 for his career.

Lester, starting on three days' rest for the first time in his career, pitched in place of Daisuke Matsuzaka, who was scratched with flulike symptoms.

Jon Garland (3-2) allowed four runs in six innings.

## Yankees 6, White Sox 4

At Chicago, Mike Mussina pitched seven strong innings and moved ahead of Bob Gibson on the career wins list with victory No. 252 for New York.

Jorge Posada had four hits, including a career-high three doubles, and drove in two runs. While Alex Rodriguez missed his second game because of a strained quadriceps and the birth of his second daughter, the Yankees matched a season high with their third straight win.

Mussina (3-2) moved into sole possession of 42nd place on MLB's wins list. The 39-year-old allowed two runs and four hits while striking out three and walking one in a season-high seven innings.

Javier Vazquez (3-2) gave up a season-high 10 hits over 5 1-3 innings after winning three straight starts.

## Orioles 3, Mariners 2

At Seattle, Nick Markakis struck out twice looking early but tied the game with a ground out and then hit a tie-breaking home run in the eighth inning to make Dan-

iel Cabrera a winner.

Markakis hit the first pitch he saw from Ryan Rowland-Smith (0-1) five rows into the right field bleachers. Mariners manager John McLaren had summoned Rowland-Smith to relieve Sean Green, who had allowed only a walk in 1 1-3 innings, because lefties had been 3-for-17 against him.

Matt Stairs.

Jason Hammel (2-1) allowed three runs and struck two.

## Cubs 7, Rockies 6

At Denver, the Chicago Cubs beat the Colorado Rockies on Ryan Theriot's RBI single with two outs in the 10th inning, giving the franchise its 10,000th win.

Both teams blew ninth-in-

ning leads with their closers, but it was the Rockies who ended up losing their fourth straight game when leading after seven innings.

Theriot's single to right field scored pinch-runner Mike Fontenot from second base as the Cubs joined the Giants as the only franchises in major league history to reach 10,000 wins.

Carlos Marmol pitched a perfect the 10th for his second save in as many chances.

Both teams blew ninth-in-

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Theriot's single to right field scored pinch-runner Mike Fontenot from second base as the Cubs joined the Giants as the only franchises in major league history to reach 10,000 wins.

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Detroit Tigers' Ivan Rodriguez scores the 11th run of the sixth inning on a single by Magglio Ordonez in a baseball game against the Texas Rangers Wednesday, April 23, 2008, in Detroit.

## Athletics 3, Twins 0

At Oakland, California, Mike Sweeney returned to the starting lineup for the first time in six games and ended a 39-game homerless streak spanning 140 at-bats with a solo shot in the eighth inning. He also had an RBI single and scored Oakland's first run.

His drive into the left-field seats on the first pitch from Matt Guerrier was his first home run since last June 8 for Kansas City—the longest drought of his 14-year career.

Chad Gaudin (2-1) went seven innings and retired 11 straight and 18 of 19 during one stretch on the way to his second straight victory. The right-hander was efficient, too, throwing only 84 pitches. He struck out four and didn't walk a batter for the first time in four starts.

## Rays 5, Blue Jays 3

At Kissimmee, Florida, Evan Longoria drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single to help Tampa Bay rally against Roy Halladay and Toronto in a game at Disney World.

The Rays improved to 5-0 in games they've played here over the past two seasons to bolster fan support in the Orlando area, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) from St. Petersburg.

Longoria's hit was the big blow in a four-run sixth against Halladay (2-3), who carried a 3-0 lead into the inning, thanks to a pair of homers by streaking

ning leads with their closers, but it was the Rockies who ended up losing their fourth straight game when leading after seven innings.

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## Mets 7, Nationals 2

At Washington, Johan Santana

## Marlins 7, Braves 2

At Atlanta, Mike Jacobs hit a two-run homer, Hanley Ramirez added a solo shot and Dan Uggla had three hits including a two-run triple in the ninth for Florida.

The Marlins jumped on Atlanta starter Jeff Bennett (0-1) for three runs in the first inning on the leadoff home run by Ramirez and Jacobs followed with his two-run shot after a single by Josh Willingham.

Andrew Miller (1-2) pitched five innings and gave up nine hits, two walks and didn't strike

out any. But he was a big part of the Braves stranding 13 runners on base.

## Pirates 7, Cardinals 4

At Pittsburgh, Jose Bautista and Doug Mientkiewicz had RBI singles during a tiebreaking three-run eighth inning, and Pittsburgh erased a four-run deficit to beat St. Louis.

Jason Bay added a two-run homer for Pittsburgh.

Damaso Marte (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings in relief to earn the win.

## Astros 9, Reds 3

At Cincinnati, Kazuo Matsui sparked Houston's seven-run rally with a two-run single, and the Astros coasted to their fourth straight victory.

Ken Griffey Jr. hit his 597th career homer off Chris Sampson (1-2), the only bright moment for struggling Cincinnati, which changed general managers before the game. Walt Jocketty took over for Wayne Krivsky, a show of impatience by team owner Bob Castellini.

The Astros knocked Bronson Arroyo (0-3) out of the game by sending 11 batters to the plate in the fourth inning for seven runs.

## Brewers 5, Phillies 4

At Milwaukee, Prince Fielder hit a pair of two-run homers, including a go-ahead shot in the eighth, as Milwaukee rallied past Philadelphia.

The homers snapped a relative power drought for Fielder, the defending NL home run champion who had 50 a year

ago. Fielder went homerless in his first 14 games this season. Both of Fielder's homers came off Philadelphia ace Cole Hamels (2-3), who lost despite striking out a season-high 11. He gave up eight hits and five runs in seven innings.

The Brewers overcame Chase Utley's major league-leading 10th homer.

## Giants 3, Padres 2, 13 innings

At San Diego, Trevor Hoffman blew another save and San Francisco went on to beat the slumping San Diego.

Rookie Emmanuel Burriss doubled off Glendon Rusch (0-2) leading off the 13th and scored the go-ahead run on Fred Lewis' single. The Giants' rally came four innings after Hoffman couldn't hold the lead for what would have been Greg Maddux's 350th career victory.

The Padres loaded the bases with no outs in the bottom of the inning against Brian Wilson before rookie Colt Morton hit a sacrifice fly for his first RBI. Khalil Greene flied out to center and Josh Bard walked to load the bases again. Tadahito Iguchi forced Bard to end the game.

## Dodgers 8, Diamondbacks 3

At Los Angeles, James Loney had a pair of RBI singles, Hu Chin-lung singled home two more runs and the Los Angeles Dodgers handed Arizona's Dan Haren his first loss of the season.

Derek Lowe (2-1) pitched just five innings for the victory, allowing a run and three hits with two strikeouts and a walk. The right-hander was removed for precautionary reasons because of tightness in his elbow, but is expected to make his next scheduled start.

Haren (3-1) was charged with six runs—five earned—and nine hits in 4 2-3 innings. It was the most runs the right-hander allowed in 42 regular-season starts since Sept. 18, 2006.

# Reds fire GM Krivsky after 9-12 start

**CINCINNATI (AP)**—With Walt Jocketty, the question was when.

When would the Cincinnati Reds decide to switch general managers and give Jocketty the chance to turn them into winners?

The answer: 21 games into the season.

Off to their worst start in five years, the Reds fired Wayne Krivsky on Wednesday and replaced him with Jocketty, who built consistent winners during 10 seasons running the Oakland Athletics and 13 with the St. Louis Cardinals.

"We've just come to a point where we're not going to lose anymore," Reds owner Bob Castellini said emphatically.

Jocketty is the fourth general manager in six years for a team that has gone through seven straight losing seasons. The Reds have been through four managers (plus an interim manager) and two owners since 2003, when they moved into Great American Ball Park. It's their deepest slump in a half-century.

Jocketty's job is to provide direction. He'll likely get more of a chance than Krivsky, who walked into Castellini's office on Wednesday morning anticipating a regular baseball meeting.

He was shocked when told he was fired.

"I fought for an hour to keep my job," Krivsky said. "I did not see this coming at all. I still think it's a gold mine.

That's what hurts so much, not to see the job through to the end and bring that winner to Cincinnati. I've had visions of being in the clubhouse with champagne being poured all over everybody."

Castellini said a 9-12 start was the main reason he turned to Jocketty, a move that was expected at some point. Krivsky, who was hired before the 2006 season, was in the final year of his contract. Jocketty was hired as a special consultant in January. The two were friends from Castellini's days as part of the Cardinals' ownership group.

When he brought him in as a special assistant in January, Castellini insisted that it was no threat to Krivsky's job. Howev-

er, he talked to Jocketty about becoming director of baseball operations after this season, giving him time to ease into a major role.

Jocketty was surprised when Castellini asked him to become general manager on Wednesday.

"I knew this was important to Bob," Jocketty said. "I'm charged up and ready to go. I think this organization is going in the right direction."

Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said Jocketty has no weaknesses in running a team.

"His track record speaks for itself, so it was just a matter of time before he was back doing a position he's proven he can do very well," La Russa said.



# Titans agree to swap Pacman to Dallas



**IRVING, Texas (AP)**—The Tennessee Titans finally washed their hands of suspended cornerback Adam “Pacman” Jones on Wednesday, agreeing in principle to trade him to the Dallas Cowboys.

Cowboys spokesman Rich Dalrymple confirmed the teams had an agreement, but no terms had been filed with the NFL office, which already had closed for the day.

The Titans also confirmed the deal, adding that terms had to be finalized. The team had no further comment beyond a two-sentence e-mail.

Dalrymple declined to discuss specifics of the trade.

“What I can confirm is that we have agreed in principle with the Tennessee Titans on a trade that will bring Adam Jones to the Cowboys,” Dalrymple said.

He declined to say who or what the Cowboys might give up in the trade. Specifics likely will be announced Thursday or Friday, Dalrymple said.

ESPN.com reported the deal involved a fourth-round draft pick this weekend and another in 2009 if Jones plays this season. The Titans would pay back that selection in 2009 if Jones is not reinstated for this season.

Agent Manny Arora said Wednesday night that they had not been told of the trade by either team, but were cautiously optimistic. Jones has talked often of his desire to play for the Cowboys in recent weeks, even appearing on Michael Irvin’s radio show in Texas.

“We recognize the fact of where we are with regards to the league,” Arora said. “We recognize the fact he’s got a guaranteed contract with Tennessee, and we recognize the fact there’s risks involved at this point. We also recognize there’s significant public relations implications for the teams, and in fact Dallas has to sell tickets, the knowledge their fan base has a point of view.

“With all that in mind, we’ve said from Day 1 we’re willing to rework our contract. Once the trade gets completed or official, we’ll be ready to do our part because we want to play for Dallas. I don’t have any hesitation saying we can get this done and get it done quickly.”

Jones was scheduled for a base salary of \$1.74 million in 2008 and had been under contract through 2009 before his suspension.



In this Dec. 17, 2006 file photo, Tennessee Titans cornerback Adam “Pacman” Jones celebrates against the Jacksonville Jaguars in the first quarter of an NFL football game in Nashville, Tenn.

He was the first defensive player drafted in 2005, sixth overall out of West Virginia, and easily was Tennessee’s best defender in 2005 and ’06. His four career interceptions came in 2006 as he helped the Titans to an 8-8 record. He also led the NFL in punt-return average in 2006 with 12.9 yards per return and three touchdowns.

But six arrests and 12 incidents where police were called since being drafted led to his suspension by NFL commissioner Roger Goodell in April 2007 for the season. Goodell declined to ease that punishment when Jones appealed to return after sitting out 10 games and now will only say that he’ll reconsider reinstating the cornerback before training camps open.

The Titans gave Jones permission to talk to other teams weeks ago, and the cornerback had been barred from working out on their property in February. The Titans and Cowboys nearly had a deal at the NFL owners’ meetings last month, but talks stalled over the issue of compensation for someone who hadn’t played since December 2006.

Dallas owner Jerry Jones said twice in the past week, including Tuesday, that the trade was stuck in neutral. But Pacman Jones, baggage and all, is a top cornerback and a dynamic kick returner who can fill some of the Cowboys’ biggest weaknesses.

Jones also has been very successful lately offering second, and third, chances to players like receiver Terrell Owens. The latest reclamation project was Tank Johnson, who signed during the 2007 season while he was still suspended.

The Titans might have been more eager to trade Jones after news surfaced Monday night that the cornerback had paid money to a 29-year-old man arrested for a Las Vegas strip club shooting in February 2007 that left a club employee paralyzed.

A police report said that in the weeks after the shooting, Jones paid \$15,000 to the man, who threatened to hurt the cornerback, his daughter and his mother. Jones picked the man out of a police lineup last Friday, helping fulfill part of the plea deal he agreed to last December when reducing two felony counts of coercion to conspiracy to commit disorderly conduct.

But he will have to testify under that plea deal. Jones’ attorney, Robert Langford, said Wednesday the trade had “nothing to do” with the legal case in Las Vegas and declined further comment.

## Long signs \$57M deal with Dolphins, will be No. 1 pick

**DAVIE, Fla. (AP)**—Jake Long seemed at ease in his new role as the NFL’s No. 1 draft pick, leaning into a news conference microphone to talk about his mean streak while his mother sat in the corner, nodding as she smiled.

The Miami Dolphins were grinning Tuesday, too. They signed the Michigan left tackle to a five-year contract with \$30 million guaranteed, and they’ll select him with the top pick in the draft Saturday.

The deal allows the Dolphins and Long to avoid a possible holdout.

“It’s really important for us to know Jake is going to be on the field for us on time when training camp begins in July,” coach Tony Sparano said. “That was critical.”

Long’s total contract package is for \$57.75 million, said a person familiar with the negotiations who didn’t want to be identified because the Dolphins declined to reveal terms. Last year’s top pick, JaMarcus Russell, signed for \$61 million with the Oakland Raiders but missed all of training camp before reaching a deal.

Long becomes the highest-paid lineman in the NFL and a 6-foot-7, 315-pound cornerstone in a rebuilding project for the new Dolphins regime led by Bill Parcells. Last season Miami went 1-15, and the offensive line has been a chronic problem in recent years.

“Jake was our guy from the beginning,” general manager Jeff Ireland said. “Jake Long was on the top of our board for a long time. There wasn’t a whole lot of debate. We thought it was a very good fit with the Miami Dolphins.”

With many other needs as well, the Dolphins were interested in trading the top pick for multiple lower choices. When no suitors surfaced, they began negotiations last week with Long’s agent, Tom Condon.

“It’s such a great honor to be the No. 1 pick,” Long said. “I don’t think it has sunk in yet. It’s something every kid dreams about. I’m just real excited that it happened. Now I’m coming to a great place.”

Long flew to South Florida with his parents Tuesday morning for the news conference. The Dolphins said they didn’t conduct contract talks with any other potential picks.

“It was a very straightforward negotiation,” Condon said. “They didn’t leverage us with other players, and we didn’t tell them we wanted to be on some different team or any of those kinds of things.”

# Walsh to meet with Goodell about Spygate

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Matt Walsh will get his day with the commissioner. What he has to offer is anyone’s guess.

The former Patriots assistant will meet with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell on May 13 about New England’s videotaping of opposing teams. It took a couple of months, but the league reached an agreement with Walsh on Wednesday.

“Commissioner Goodell will meet with Mr. Walsh ... on May 13, the earliest date that Mr. Walsh, who lives in Hawaii, will be available on the East Coast,” the NFL statement said. “The agreement also requires Mr. Walsh to return any tapes and other items in his possession that belong to the Patriots. In return, the NFL and the Patriots have promised not to sue

Mr. Walsh. They also will indemnify him for any expenses, including legal fees that he incurs in connection with the interview.”

During Super Bowl week, and nearly five months after the Patriots were sanctioned for illegal taping of the New York Jets in the season opener—a \$500,000 fine for coach Bill Belichick, a \$250,000 fine for the organization, and the loss of a first-round draft pick on Saturday—there were reports of possible other videotaping by the Patriots. Those reports centered on Walsh, who shot videos for the Patriots during his six-year stint with the organization.

Since the Super Bowl, Goodell’s staff has sought a meeting with Walsh.

“Today, Mr. Walsh and the Na-

tional Football League reached an agreement under which the NFL will provide legal indemnification and a release of claims against Mr. Walsh relating to his employment by the Patriots and the Patriots’ videotaping operations,” said Walsh’s lawyer, Michael Levy of McKee Nelson LLP. “I am pleased that we now have an agreement that provides Mr. Walsh with appropriate legal protections. Mr. Walsh is looking forward to providing the NFL with the materials he has and telling the NFL what he knows.”

So what might Walsh have and what does he know? The Patriots say he has nothing.

“The New England Patriots are pleased to learn that Matt Walsh is finally willing to come forward to meet with the NFL,” the team

said in a statement. “We are eagerly anticipating his honest disclosures to commissioner Goodell next month and the return of all the materials he took during his time of employment.

“We fully expect this meeting to conclude the league’s investigation into a damaging and false allegation that was originally levied against the team on the day before this year’s Super Bowl.”

The allegation was that New England videotaped the St. Louis Rams’ walkthrough on the day before the 2002 Super Bowl. Although Belichick admitted to Goodell during the Spygate investigation that his team often taped opposing coaches’ signals during games, he adamantly has denied anything about that Super Bowl.

“I’ve never seen a tape of another team’s practice. Ever!” Belichick said at last month’s NFL owners’ meetings. “Certainly not that one.

“I think they’ve addressed everything they possibly can address. I’ve addressed so many questions so many times from so many people I don’t know what else the league could ask.”

In their statement Wednesday, the Patriots reiterated that stand:

“At all times, we cooperated fully with the league’s investigation and stand by our initial public statement from Saturday, Feb. 2, 2008: The suggestion that the New England Patriots recorded the St. Louis Rams’ walkthrough on the day before Super Bowl XXXVI in 2002 is absolutely false.”



# Immelman back on course after extended Masters celebration



**IRVING, Texas** (AP)—Trevor Immelman offered a visual response when asked how different things are for him as the Masters champion. He held up his ink-stained left hand.

"You can see all the Sharpie that's rubbed up onto my hand. That wouldn't normally happen to me," Immelman said Wednesday. "That's purely because I've had to sign so much today. ... You've got to pinch yourself when you realize that you're the Masters champion and that's the reason all this is happening."

Immelman had a whirlwind week after the victory, with his first trip to New York for countless interviews, a congratulatory phone call from runner-up Tiger Woods and a few days at home trying to reflect on what had happened.

"It still hasn't quite sunk in yet," Immelman said.

But the green jacket is now hanging at home and Immelman is ready to play again, in the EDS Byron Nelson Championship at the renovated TPC Four Seasons, the sole tournament course for the first time since 1993. Cottonwood Valley also was used from 1994-2007.

The Masters champion, who finished second at the Nelson two years ago, is suddenly one of the big-name draws in a field that has only one player from the top 10 in the world rankings: 10th-ranked Adam Scott.

Immelman never considered bypassing the Nelson, but uncertainty about the renovations and the \$6.4 million tournament being sandwiched in a



Trevor Immelman, of South Africa, laughs while speaking to reporters during a news conference after playing in the Pro-Am round of the EDS Byron Nelson Championship golf tournament in Irving, Texas, Wednesday, April 23, 2008.

three-week span between the Masters and The Players Championship were a factor in others skipping.

Soon after Scott Verplank's emotional victory last year, when deteriorating greens were bumpy and sometimes brown, work began on a \$10 million project on the course that included

changes on every hole and the relocation of 165 trees. The redesign was completed in time despite record rainfall last summer.

"Coming back as defending champion, you really hate to see them change anything. But, it's good," Verplank said.

"It's fantastic. It really is. It's such a huge improvement," Immelman said. "I think as soon as word gets out how good the golf course is, you're going to start attracting a lot of great players to this event again."

As will a later date, which seems more likely after EDS announced a four-year extension of its title sponsorship through 2014 after negotiations with the PGA Tour.

"Tim and I had a meeting of the minds and understood," EDS chairman and CEO Ron Rittenmeyer said, with PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem sitting to his right. "He's been incredibly supportive of this event and has eliminated reasonably what are our concerns."

While not yet ready to discuss specifics of that extension, Rittenmeyer has publicly expressed his desire for the tournament to be held in May. He did indicate that will happen at least some over the next six years.

Verplank finally won the Nelson on his 21st try last year. He was a fitting champion for the first tournament without its namesake watching from his chair beside the 18th green. Byron Nelson died in September 2006 at the age of 94.

"Scott's victory was almost preordained," 2007 tournament chairman Brooks Cullum said this week when formally presenting Verplank with his trophy.

When his final 2-foot putt rolled into the cup last year, Verplank dropped into a squatting position, looked skyward and let his emotions flow. Missing was a personal congratulation from Nelson, but Peggy Nelson was there clutching

one of her late husband's famed fedoras when she hugged Verplank.

"It's a special deal for me, actually getting to live a dream," Verplank said. "Most people dream and don't ever get to realize their dreams. I was lucky enough to get to do that and I actually realized it while it was happening."

Verplank's last victory had been in 2001, and he had only one top-10 finish in his first eight tournaments last season before the Nelson. He finished with 10 top 10s and won \$3.1 million, both career bests.

"I had not been playing that well coming in here last year and obviously got inspired," said Verplank, who has only one top-10 finish in nine tournaments this season. "It's pretty similar to how it was last year at this time. ... I always look forward to coming to play here."

This is Verplank's 22nd Nelson, the most of anybody in the field. The record is 28 by Lanny Wadkins and Tom Watson, neither who has played here since 1999.

Immelman, the 28-year-old South African, will try to do what only one of the last 20 Masters winners has been able to do: win their next tournament after donning the green jacket. That was Woods, in 1997, when he won at the Nelson after his first Masters victory. But there the only one to miss the cut in his next tournament was Jose Maria Olazabal in 1994.

Immelman has been in position to win the Nelson before. He had a three-stroke lead midway through the final round in 2006 before losing to Brett Wetterich by a stroke, a week after losing to Jim Furyk in a playoff.

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# Busy sked ahead for PBA stars

**MANILA, Philippines**—A busy timetable mixed with charity work and a bit of rest and recreation awaits the PBA All-Star delegation later this week in Bacolod City, site of the 2008 Smart-PBA All-Star event.

Officials and players comprising the North and South teams, the Rookies and Sopho-

more squads, and participants to the various side events will be leaving in two batches for the “City of Smiles” beginning Thursday for the April 24-27 mid-season spectacle also backed by Pigrolac, Mighty Bond, Coke and Yakult.

A campus tour at De La Salle

and West Negros College will set off the All-Stars’ activities after their arrival. The players will also join a tree planting session, radio tour (Yes FM and Campus Radio), plant visit (Bong Bong) and mall tour (Robinson’s) later in the day.

The PBA stars will grace the

ribbon-cutting ceremony of Jam Ball at the Gaisano Mall on Friday, then visit the Bacolod Boys’ Home for an outreach program before paying a courtesy call on Mayor Evelio Leonardia.

They are also scheduled to watch the eliminations of the Batang PBA league in the afternoon, and after a brief break,

compete in the skills competitions (slam dunk, three-point shootout and obstacle course) and the Blitz Game between the Rookies and Sophomores at the West Negros College gym.

“It’s going to be a busy weekend for the players and the PBA in general, but this is a commitment we are doing for the basketball fans and the friendly people of Bacolod City,” said league commissioner Renauld “Sonny” Barrios.

On Saturday, members of the

North and South All-Star teams will attend the two-hour basketball clinics, one for kids at Bay Center to be handled by coach Norman Black and the other for coaches at the West Negros headed by Sta. Lucia Realty’s Boyet Fernandez and Purefoods’ Ryan Gregorio.

Technical officials Romy Guevarra and Ramil Cruz will also conduct the last of their three-day referees’ basketball clinic at the same university venue early in the morning. (PDI)

## RGA to link up with NMC this weekend



The Refulwasch Golf Association May qualifier will be held in conjunction with the 6th Annual NMC Foundation Open tomorrow, April 26, at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

RGA tournament director Jess Wabol said they are linking up with the second “major” golf tournament of the year to

save costs and assure the NMC Foundation Open would have more players.

According to organizers of the NMC Open, the 2008 edition of the tournament will adopt a medal play format and will utilize a special double Peoria on all men’s flights. Check-in time is 6am with shotgun start at 7am.

In addition to first, second, and third place prizes for the flights, the tournament will in-

clude hole-in-one prizes.

The lucky golfer who makes a hole-in-one shot has a chance at winning a 2008 Mazda 3, courtesy of Triple J; or \$25,000 in cash from Bank of Hawaii; or another \$25,000 in cash from AON Insurance; or a \$5,000 cash prize courtesy of Century Insurance.

Proceeds from the 6th Annual NMC Foundation Open will go toward the needs of the islands’ lone tertiary institution.

For more information about the NMC Foundation Open, contact Mark Mendiola at 234-5498 ext. 1050 or visit Triple J Motors, NMC cashier’s window, or the Laolao Bay Golf Resort to sign up.

For more information about RGA’s May qualifier, contact president Adam Hardwicke at 483-2926 or tournament director Jess Wabol at 233-3673. (Mark Rabago)

## NEW

From Page 44

Team CNMI as a utility player that can play with the defenders, mix it up in the midfielders, or pose a threat up top with the forwards.

The midfield makeover is perhaps the biggest change for the CNMI men as the Blue Ayuyus made some positional changes and picked up three new players since their 2007 meeting with Guam. Peter Houk served as the home team’s top offensive threat last year, and he’ll maintain his presence at the heart of the CNMI’s attack.

Houk’s footwork will be complimented by returning youngster, Lucas Knecht. The Saipan International School student’s maturity and skill have grown to match his size during the past year, and Knecht looks to make the transition to soccer manhood by playing in his second international match.

Knecht has received plenty of pointers along the way from returning starter, Angelo Vil-

lagomez. The environmentalist took the field as a striker when the CNMI last played Guam, but Villagomez has transitioned into his new role of midfielder with ease.

Chemistry in the middle of the field is a key component to any team’s success, and the addition of three position players to the mix has thus far proved to be a benefit to the CNMI’s central core. Elementary school teacher Peter Loken will play his first international game with the squad, along with fellow rookies, Steve McKagan and Joe Miller.

An accomplished tennis player and part-time actor, Loken has the athletic ability to get the job done, and he garnered the respect of his teammates when he was recently named as the CNMI’s co-captain. McKagan has also proved his value to the squad in his first season of Saipan soccer, as the fisheries biologist added the same experience that helped lead the CNMI All-Stars to a 3-3 tie with Guam last summer.

Miller is one of the young-

est players on the team, and the Kagman High School student brings his passion for the game and positive attitude every time he takes the field. Miller has been with the team just under two months after making his debut in the CNMI Men’s League this year.

While the midfielders have plenty of youth, the CNMI forwards have the benefit of years of experience with strikers Chris Guerrero and Choi Yong Woon. For the past seven weeks, Guerrero has spent his days keeping Saipan safe with the Department of Public Safety and his evenings working out with his teammates. After missing out on last year’s home-and-home series with Guam, he looks to help bring the CNMI its first Marianas Cup victory.

While Guerrero takes care of the ground, Choi spends most of his time minding the skies with Asiana Airlines. Injuries prevented him from joining the squad in 2007, and Choi plans on making the most of his first international competition this Sunday.

The same goes for new for-

wards Michael Thomas and Brad Ruszala. Both earned spots on the roster last year, but only Thomas found playing time against Guam in both games. After running the flanks in the midfield, Thomas’ off-season training regimen resulted in better ball handling skills and increased endurance.

Ruszala made the move from fullback to midfielder with the Independents of the Men’s League, and on to striker with the nationals. The former sports reporter turned PTI marketing associate aims at earning his first international cap in front of the home crowd this Sunday.

The second edition of the Marianas Cup gets underway tomorrow afternoon when the women take the field at 3pm with pre-game activities getting underway at 2:45pm. Day 2 takes place between the men on Sunday at 3pm with pre-game activities getting underway at 2:45pm, as well. Attendance is free and organizers invite the community to provide the same crowd support that last year’s team enjoyed.

## FOODMAKERS

From Page 44

a 100-89 victory against Tan Holdings-CTSI Pacers.

John Santos finished what Ryan Sanciangco and Elmer Esdreton started in helping the Foodmakers end its two-game skid to improve their record to 3-2 behind the unbeaten 3-0 slates of Ol’ Aces and Advance X-Terminators.

Santos, held to two points in the first half and was even scoreless in the opening quarter, erupted for 21 markers in the final 20 minutes of the game turning a meager 56-47 halftime advantage into a rout.

From then on, MIGS played catch up but time was not on their side as they suffered their fourth straight loss in as many games.

Sanciangco paced the Shir-

ley’s crew with 37 points, while Esdreton chipped in 19 with Junar Guiab and Steve Rasa adding 14 and 11 markers.

Ronald Delos Reyes and Raymond Cadagat combined for more than half of MIGS points with 73 markers.

Delos Reyes led MIGS with a season-high 40 points going perfect from the free throw line, 11-for-11. He had 26 points in the first half as MIGS kept it close after the first 20 minutes of the match.

Cadagat, held to a season-low seven points in the first half, finished with 33 markers including 20 in the third period to back-up Delos Reyes’ scoring explosion.

They failed to get the needed scoring support from their teammates as no other MIGS player finished in double digits. Reyad Tagle and John Jugos had eight and nine each while Toto Bana-

tasa had six. Jun Tabora, Gilbert Cabaddu, and Rasty Doronilla combined for eight points off the bench.

In the second game, which was the masters division, Alex Ocampo scattered 24 points to lead Bank of Saipan to a 100-89 decision against the Tan Holdings-CTSI Pacers.

Ed Palma backed him up with 23 points, while Warren Villegas contributed 21 markers to help secure for the league-leading Bankers their third consecutive win in as many games.

Ariel Jinang finished with a game-high 29 points for the Pacers, while William Opone, who came in the second half, managed to score 17 markers. Edel Cariño tallied 15 more for the Pacers.

### First Game

**Shirley’s Coffee Shop/Blue Haus 125** – Sanciangco 37,

Santos 23, Esdreton 19, Guiab 14, Rasa 11, Montano 7, Barbo 5, Mercurio 5, Manibusan 4.

**MIGS 106** – Delos Reyes 40, Cadagat 33, Tagle 9, Jugos 8, Banatasa 6, Tabora 4, Cabaddu 2, Doronilla 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 31-25, 56-47, 91-79, 125-106.

**Referees:** Eric Artillaga and Dado Vistal.


### Second Game

**Bank of Saipan 100** – Ocampo 24, Palma 23, Villegas 21, Delos Santos 9, Darag 8, Moreno 8, Tipples 4, Ebuen 2, Mamuta 1.

**Tan Holdings-CTSI 89** – Jinang 29, Opone 17, Cariño 15, Dimaano 8, Salazar 5, Garcia 4, Solidum 4, Tobais 3, Galag 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 27-26, 52-45, 77-67, 100-89.

**Referees:** Jess Pabula and Michael A. White.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	15	8	.652	—
Baltimore	12	9	.571	2
New York	12	10	.545	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	10	11	.476	4
Toronto	10	12	.455	4 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	11	9	.550	—
Minnesota	10	11	.476	1 1/2
Kansas City	9	11	.450	2
Detroit	9	13	.409	3
Cleveland	8	12	.400	3

West Division

Los Angeles	13	9	.591	—
Oakland	13	9	.591	—
Seattle	11	11	.500	2
Texas	7	15	.318	6

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Florida	13	8	.619	—
New York	11	9	.550	1 1/2
Philadelphia	11	11	.500	2 1/2
Atlanta	10	11	.476	3
Washington	6	16	.273	7 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	15	6	.714	—
Milwaukee	13	8	.619	2
St. Louis	13	9	.591	2 1/2
Houston	10	12	.455	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	9	12	.429	6
Cincinnati	9	13	.409	6 1/2

West Division

Arizona	15	6	.714	—
Colorado	9	12	.429	6
Los Angeles	9	12	.429	6
San Diego	9	13	.409	6 1/2
San Francisco	9	13	.409	6 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Detroit 19, Texas 6

L.A. Angels 6, Boston 4

Tampa Bay 5, Toronto 3

Cleveland at Kansas City, ppd., rain

N.Y. Yankees 6, Chicago White Sox 4

Oakland 3, Minnesota 0

Baltimore 3, Seattle 2

Pittsburgh 7, St. Louis 4

Florida 7, Atlanta 2

N.Y. Mets 7, Washington 2

Houston 9, Cincinnati 3

Milwaukee 5, Philadelphia 4

Chicago Cubs 7, Colorado 6, 10 innings

San Francisco 3, San Diego 2, 13 innings

L.A. Dodgers 8, Arizona 3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

BSML Standings

Rock Steady	7	0
Tanapag Falcons	5	1
Korean Dreams	4	3
Ford Rangers	3	1
D9ers	3	3
Kabur	1	5
Tigers	1	6
Komoro	1	6

NMIVA Standings

	W	L	PF	PA	SW
Kiss My Pass	3	0	112	81	8
MHS Peers	3	0	81	71	6
Fatingali	2	0	62	49	5
Angan	2	0	54	54	4
Gigi	2	1	78	84	4
Spike'A'Sauras	2	1	77	80	4
Snap Crackle Pop	1	1	58	41	3
15 Of Fame	1	1	57	43	4
670 Boom Boom	1	1	52	45	3
MHS Okies	1	2	81	74	5
Spiked Punch	1	2	70	73	4
Tsunami	1	2	54	89	2
Herbalizers	0	2	76	90	2
Brabu	0	3	73	75	3
MHS Young Gunz	0	3	53	61	3

PF-Points scored by team

PA-Points scored against team

SW-Sets won



# Busy three months ahead for NMITF

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will have a busy three months ahead as they continue their activities lined up for the year.

NMITF president Russ Quinn said he decided to release their schedule of events or races that they will be organizing to keep their members updated. "So you can [also] plan your training schedules accordingly."

Tomorrow, NMITF members will participate in the Club Elan 5K Fun Run at the American Memorial Park where men's and women's open, men's and women's 30-39, men's and women's 40-and-over, 18-and-under, 12-and-under, and 8-and-under are the age divisions going to be offered.

The distance for adults is 5K while the kids will have a shorter course of 1K and 2K.

The NMITF will organize the second kids triathlon this season on May 3 when triathletes as young as six years old will compete in three age divisions.

The NMITF will also support one of their own in the May 11 "Run 4 Ron" 5K fundraising race at Micro Beach inside the American Memorial Park. The course to be used is the same



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Jack Sharer crosses the finish line in the first kids triathlon event for the year organized by the Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation last April 12 at the Marianas Resort and Spa grounds in Marpi.

course in the Club Elan 5K Fun Run organized by Hyatt Regency Saipan's Club Elan.

The 5K fun run and walk is veteran runner Ronald Villafria's fundraising event to help him finance his scheduled trip to Tokyo, Japan, where he will compete in the 2008 Mt. Fuji Marathon or Fuji Tozan race on July 25.

Proceeds of the Sunday fun run would help defray the cost of the Coco's Restaurant employee's plane ticket for the Japan trip.

Quinn also scheduled a Full Moon Night Ride for biking enthusiasts on May 18 that serves as

a warm-up event for the May 31 Hyatt Regency Saipan-Marianas Visitors Authority Mountain Bike Ride. Details of the Hyatt-MVA race will come out soon.

On June 14, local triathletes will compete against their visiting Japanese counterparts for the 9th Turquoise Blue Triathlon & Reef Swim. Teams are allowed for the Tinian Triathlon.

Quinn also reminded everyone of the NMITF's regular Sunday Group Fun Rides with three different courses for all levels.

Other events to be held by NMITF for the year are a sports yoga and bike maintenance clinics.

# Onoue is top point-getter for the year



While Noriko Togawa and Shirlyn Jones topped the CNMI Women's Golf Association Members Annual Two-Day Golf Tournament, it was Shiori Onoue who walked away with the most points for the year.

Onoue, who won the monthly tee offs in August and December last year, finished with 131 points. She was followed by Jones' 107 and Togawa's 103.

Yuko Togawa and Lourdes Kim complete the Top 5 in the race with 95 points and 92 points, respectively.

Terry Tudela (91 points), Terue Ukita (85), Matilde Hocog (73), Bobbie Guerrero (66), and Kimiko Abe (65) make up the Top 10 in the annual points competition, which compiles all tournament scores throughout the year and award points to monthly rankings.

In the club's Members Annual Two-Day Golf Tournament held a couple of weekends ago at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort, Togawa topped the gross scores competition, while Jones was without peer in the net scores department.

Five strokes ahead of her nearest rival, Togawa reigned supreme with her Day 1 and Day 2 accumulated score of 159.

The Japanese par-buster kicked off her campaign with an 82 following a 42 in the front and a 40 in the back last April 12. She solidified her stranglehold of first place with a superb 77 on April 13 following an 18-hole performance of 40 and 37. She finished the event with an average gross of 79.5.

Onoue finished second to the CWGA president with her 164, followed by Tudela's 167, Kim Yang's 168, and Yuko Togawa's 178.

Jones, for her part, finished the Saturday and Sunday affair at the Kagman golf venue with a net score of 147, which translates to an average of 73.5.

She shot identical 43s in the front and back nines of the east course on the first day to finish with a gross score of 86, which after her USGA handicap of 13 was deducted gave her a 73. The score was a stroke shy of first day leaders Bobbie Guerrero and Kyung A. Yang.

Jones went back to the Laolao Bay Golf Resort this time on its west course for the second round on April 13 and fired a net 74, built around a 45-42 for a gross score of 87.

Ukita finished second with her two-day net score of 149, followed by Hocog (150), Yang (151), and Guerrero.

Established in March 2007,

CWGA is a nonprofit organization founded to promote, encourage, and introduce women to the sport of golf in the CNMI.

The organization intends to accomplish the following: 1. Promote civic and community interest in golf; 2. Establish and encourage competition and good sportsmanship; 3. Promote and provide social functions of the members and their families; 4. Promote youth golf activities; and 5. To do any or all things necessary and proper to accomplish its purpose and intention.

CWGA also commits its members to abide by a set of values that will further enrich a golfer's performance, attitude, and conduct-adopted from the USA Junior Golf Association.

The set of values members of CWGA are committed to faithfully are as follows: perseverance; sportsmanship; respect; honesty; judgment; responsibility; reliance; courtesy; and sincerity.

The association was established in March 2007 with Noriko Togawa serving as president, Lou Kim as vice president, Aya Matsumoto as treasurer, Lorraine Babauta as secretary, and Terry Tudela, Bobbie Guerrero, and Dolores Yamagishi acting as directors. (Mark Rabago)



## Congratulations to the CNMI National Men and Women Teams competing in the 2008 Marianas Cup

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 - 3:00PM • SUNDAY, APRIL 27 - 3:00PM  
CIVIC CENTER FIELD-OLEAI SPORTS COMPLEX



Amanda Allen, Saipan Community School ESL Teacher, PIC Paradise in Cleats



Rhema Haliby, Grace Christian School Student, Marianas Eye Spectacular Blues



Alesia Fejerman, Marianas High School Student, PIC Paradise in Cleats



Becca Newman, Saipan International School Math & English Teacher, Marianas Eye Spectacular Blues



Zoe Jewell, Saipan International School Student, Jason's Minions



Lindsay Davis, Gregory T. Camacho Elementary Teacher, Wild Bill's Wild Fire



Emily Gries, Saipan Community School Teacher, Smith's Bella Ballers



Madison Smith, Saipan International School Student, Smith's Bella Ballers



Jenny Linden, CHC Obstetrics & Gynecology Physician, PIC Paradise in Cleats



Ashley Hofschneider, Grace Christian Academy Student, PIC Paradise in Cleats



Francine Sablan, Senior Admin Asst., Legislative Bureau, Smith's Bella Ballers



Nicki Gabaldon, Garapan Elementary School Teacher, Marianas Eye Spectacular Blues



Patricia Coleman, Northern Marianas College, Wild Bill's Wild Fire



Brenda Schultz, Whispering Palms School Teacher, PIC Paradise in Cleats



Natalie Shill, Hopwood Jr. High Teacher, Wild Bill's Wild Fire



Connie Camacho, Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, Marianas Eye Spectacular Blues



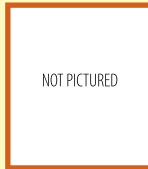
Mariana Gramlich, Grace Christian Academy Student, Smith's Bella Ballers



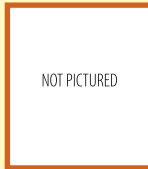
Meghan Hasselshearer, Attorney General Office, PIC Paradise in Cleats



Katie Peters, Eucon International School Teacher, Wild Bill's Wild Fire



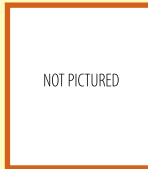
Lindsay Sosobec, PIC Clubmate



Glenn Smith, Team Manager



Nick Swaim, Coach, National Women Team



Ichiro Fujita, Japan Football Association, Interim Asst. Coach



Peter Houk, Environmental Biologist, Inter



Ben Wood, Saipan Southern High Teacher, Independents



Brad Ruzala, PTI Marketing, Independents



Lucas Knecht, Saipan International Student, Independents



Michael Thomas, Technical Consultant, Independents



Angelo Villagomez, Beauty CNMI, Independents



Peter Loken, Garapan Elementary School Teacher, Inter



Greg Borja, Disabled Rights Advocate Project Specialist, Independents



Norman Camacho, PTI Telecommunications, Independents



Chris Guerrero, Police Officer-DPS, Inter



Steven Mckagan, Marine Biologist, Independents



Elias Rangamar, Asst. Director, Sports & Recreation, OI Aces



Daniel Westphal, Ships, PTI-Multinationals



Dale Roberts, Garapan Elementary School Vice Principal, Inter



Joe Miller, Marianas High School Student, PTI-Multinationals



Choi Yong Woon, Asiana Airlines, FC Airang



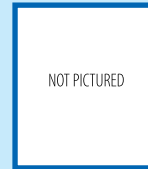
Dave Duenas, PIC Director of Front Desk, Inter



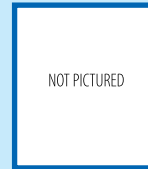
Nick Swaim, NMIFA Coach & Technical Director, Inter



John Ravell, Team Manager



Ichiro Fujita, Japan Football Association, Interim Asst. Coach



Arcee Reusora, Asst. Coach

CNMI NATIONAL WOMEN TEAM PLAYERS TO COMPETE IN THE 2008 MARIANAS CUP THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH. PRELIMINARY CEREMONIES BEGIN AT 2:45PM AND KICK OFF TIME IS 3PM AT THE CIVIC CENTER FIELD, NEXT TO THE ADA GYM, IN THE OLEAI SPORTS COMPLEX.

CNMI NATIONAL MEN TEAM PLAYERS TO COMPETE IN THE 2008 MARIANAS CUP THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH. PRELIMINARY CEREMONIES BEGIN AT 2:45PM AND KICK OFF TIME IS 3PM AT THE CIVIC CENTER FIELD, NEXT TO THE ADA GYM, IN THE OLEAI SPORTS COMPLEX.





#### Busy three months ahead for NMITF

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will have a busy three months ahead as they continue their activities lined up for the year.

43

# Saipan Tribune Sports

#### Pistons even series with Game 2 rout of 76ers

Rasheed Wallace had another good game against the Philadelphia 76ers. Unlike the series opener, a few Detroit Pistons starters helped him out.

38



44 FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2008

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## New faces to represent CNMI Men



BRAD E. RUSZALA

CNMI Men's National Team player-coach Nick Swaim explains some of the finer points of goal-keeping to rookie net minder Greg Borja during a practice session at the Oleai Sports Complex.

By BRAD E. RUSZALA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the CNMI Men's and Women's National Teams tapering their training routines and the faint sound of Europe's 1980's smash hit is in the air as the final count-down to the 2nd Annual Marianas Cup has indeed begun.

With only a couple of days remaining before both squads seek revenge for their 2007 debut losses on Guam's Harmon Field, the players will have to hope that their weeks spent on the training pitch were well spent.

The CNMI Men will take the field against their regional rivals this Sunday, April 27, looking much different than last year's squad as the home team

will be without 11 of players that filled out its roster in 2007.

One of the biggest changes comes between the pipes as starting keeper Greg Borja and backup Elias Rangamar suit up for their first contest as CNMI goalkeepers. Borja spends most of his time away from the pitch with his family and defending the rights of the others as an advocate with NMPASI. A sage of sports, Rangamar has been molding athletes on the basketball and volleyball courts, as well as on the track and field for many years as one of the CNMI's highest ranked coaches of any sport.

The duo will lean upon each other this weekend, but they'll also receive plenty of help from this year's squad of CNMI fullbacks. Nobody knows what



BRAD E. RUSZALA

CNMI Men's National Team forward Michael Thomas warms up during team practice at the CPA Airport Field.

the keepers need more than former CNMI net minder, Ben Wood.

The accomplished artist and teacher from Saipan Southern High School made the move to the backline while playing for the Independents during the Men's League, and he's never looked back. Joining him are returning starters, Dale Roberts and team co-captain David Dueñas.

A veteran of many international sporting events, Roberts helps to develop the next generation of scholar-athletes as the vice principal of Garapan Elementary School, while Dueñas oversees the front office of one of Saipan's most popular resorts—the Pacific Islands Club.

Another one of the new faces to the CNMI Men is outdoor enthusiast, Dan

Westphal. Long known locally as "Bar-no" because of his talents on the beach volleyball haunts, Westphal brings a "no-holds barred" attitude with him to the pitch.

Keeping the unit in check will fall on Dueñas' shoulders, but player-coach Nick Swaim has spent more than his fair share calling the shots for the CNMI during the build-up to the rematch. When he's not training the CNMI Men, Women, and U14 teams, the former PIC Clubmate is chasing waves on his surfboard or hiking the many trails Saipan has to offer.

All-around athlete Norman Camacho is another addition to the 2008 roster who didn't even try out for last year's team. Now the family man and PTI communications specialist serves

See NEW on Page 42

## Peers win two to join leader on top

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



MHS Peers won two in a row to join Kiss My Pass on top of the standings in the 9th Annual Pacific Islands Club-Miller Lite Spring Co-ed 4-Person Beach Volleyball League at the Pacific Islands Club sand courts.

Results of games on Tuesday and Wednesday gave the Peers a 3-0 record, which is the same slate that Kiss My Pass is currently holding. Both teams enjoy a full-game lead over the also undefeated Fatingali and Angan (2-0).

Spiked Punch became MHS Peers' latest victim as they grinded

See PEERS on Page 42

## Foodmakers end slump; Bankers go 3-0



JON PEREZ

John Santos, right, of Shirley's Coffee Shop/Blue Haus, defends against Ron Gamboa of the Advance X-Terminators in this file photo taken in their April 9 game in the FMI Inter-Color Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Shirley's Coffee Shop/Blue Haus returned to its winning ways in the open division, while Bank of Saipan notched its third straight win in the masters class as action continued in the 2008 FMI Inter-Color Basketball League Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Foodmakers used a third quarter scoring outburst to coast to a 125-106 win over MIGS, while the Bankers leaned on its veterans in pulling off

See FOODMAKERS on Page 42

## Kabur snaps skid in Budweiser league

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Tuwi Ngiraidong pitched in no relief to help Bridge Capital-Kabur snap out of its miserable five-game losing skid in the 3rd Annual Budweiser-Saipan Major League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Kabur, composed of Team Rubak, avenged its Masters Baseball League loss to the Tigers of Atty. Bob O'Connor with a 15-9 win on Wednesday night.

The win allowed Kabur to climb out of the cellar with a 1-5 slate, while the loss dropped the Tigers to a tie from seventh to eighth spots with similar 1-6 cards.

Ngiraidong scattered three earned runs on 10 hits with nine strikeouts, and a walk foiling the Tigers chances of a comeback in the eighth and ninth innings. He limited the Tigers to two runs—one earned—on three hits in the last two innings.

After giving up a single to Clinton Ngiraiked, Ngiraidong forced Dennis Cruz to an infield fly for the first out. Mabel Ngirngemelas had an RBI sin-



JON PEREZ

The Tigers' Ivan Igitol runs toward third base in this file photo taken in their game against the D9ers on April 14 in the 3rd Annual Budweiser-Saipan Major League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

gle off Ngiraidong then stole home for a quick two runs.

But that proved to be the Tigers' last two runs as Ngiraidong retired Mike Muna and forced Frank Torres to fly-out to center fielder Jason Hayes to end the eighth.

In the ninth, Ngiraidong forced Manny Cabrera to ground out to shortstop Rasco Yamada, who then made the relay throw to first baseman Gloyd Martin for the first out.

Manny Tenorio singled off Ngiraidong then advanced on a fielder's choice when Bob O'Connor grounded on a 5-3 putout play by third baseman Hector Efraim to Martin.

Ngiraidong secured the win when Jess Mesa grounded out on a 6-3 putout play to end the game.

Veteran slugger Poland Masaharu provided the run support for Ngiraidong going 2-for-3 including blasting a two-run inside-the-park home run in Kabur's seven-run scoring rally.

Masaharu also scored three runs, scoring on a pass ball in the first, had a double

in the third inning, walked in the fifth before striking out in the sixth. He had one stolen base and had two RBIs.

Martin went 4-for-5, one run, a double, one stolen base, and two RBIs while Yamada went 2-for-5 with two runs, a stolen base, and two RBIs.

Tony Rogolifo went 2-for-3 for the Tigers with a two-RBI single in the first inning while Frank Torres also went 2-for-3 scoring three runs, had two doubles, and an RBI.

Ed Santos earned the loss after giving up five earned runs on 13 hits with fanning five and walking four.

Errors also did not help the Tigers' cause as they committed 11 in the game that either scored a run or advanced a base runner.

On Monday, Rock Steady improved to a league-best 6-0 mark after a 22-3 demolition of the Korean Dreams, while last Friday defending champion Tanapag Falcons trounced Komoro, 7-3, despite record-breaking pitcher Jae Young Kim's 12 strikeouts.